

Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support the proposal to legalize the use of marijuana in the CNMI?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Back on Land

They can call it a nightmare. A cruise from hell. Even a Spamcation.

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No Nukes

The Dalai Lama and other Nobel Peace laureates gather to support the end of nuclear weapons.

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Potter Mania

The opening moments of the new "Harry Potter" film proclaims that dark times have arisen.

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CUC proposes 'base rate' hike beginning April 2011

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Over a month after the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission turned down the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s proposal to increase power rates in the next six months, the utility agency is proposing yet again another rate hike—this time a base electric rate adjustment.

In the proposal it filed with the commission on Wednesday, CUC said the proposed adjustment in its base electric rates would translate to an increase of about \$4.18 per month for the typical residential customer, and \$28.30 per month for small businesses.

If approved, the increase would not appear on customers' bills until April 1, 2011, according to the PUC's schedule.

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Corrections officer drowns at Obyan Beach

» 6th drowning victim on Saipan this year

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Corrections officer who was spear fishing with a companion drowned outside the reef of Obyan Beach yesterday.

Corrections Officer Jesus Castro, 28, was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center where a doctor pronounced him dead at 12:55pm.

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17 take oath to become US citizens

» 'With citizenship privileges come responsibilities'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

For teary-eyed Violeta Angeles, acquiring U.S. citizenship is the best gift she could ever receive a day after her 64th birthday.

Angeles, a teacher aide at Marianas High School, was among the 17 foreign nationals who took their oath to become U.S. citizens yesterday morning in a spe-



A total of 17 foreign nationals from South Korea, the Philippines, Switzerland, China and Taiwan take their oath to become U.S. citizens in a special naturalization ceremony at the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands yesterday morning. Inset shows U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting Judge Mark W. Bennett of Iowa, who administered the oath, congratulating one of the new citizens.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

cial naturalization ceremony at the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.

"I am so happy to receive this birthday gift...My children and I waited for this for nine years. I was petitioned by my eldest daughter," Angeles, originally from the Philippines, told *Saipan Tribune*.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett of Iowa ad-

ministered the oath to the 17 nationals, originally from Switzerland, the Philippines, China, Taiwan and South Korea.

Walter Haith, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service field director for Guam and the CNMI, presented 21 petitioners but only 17 were present at the ceremony.

Of the four who did not show up, only

See **CITIZENS** on **Page 4**



Local

Wife of handicapped man seeks help

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Ma. Filomena Quitugua, 50, couldn't help but cry every time she goes home from work as a security guard and sees her handicapped husband, Rafael Quitugua, 51, soaked in his own urine and feces.

Her husband couldn't stand up as a result of a severe fall in December 2009 that resulted in a spinal cord compression.

She would need to carry him to the bathroom every time she's home.

"This has been hard for the two of us, especially for him. Every time I go to work, I am taking a risk. I'll always hope

he won't have seizures. But if I don't go to work, we wouldn't have anything to eat and we wouldn't be able to pay our rent and utilities," Quitugua told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Quitugua said her husband has been denied his Social Security Income since February 2009.

"All we ask is that he will have his SSI again. He is totally handicapped. If only they would take the time to see my husband's condition. They insist he's not qualified because he has a property on Rota but that's no longer his. That was a mountaintop property. He used to receive \$674 a month in his SSI. With that money, we could hire someone who would look after

him while I go to work for our food," said Quitugua, who is originally from the Philippines.

Quitugua, who is known more by her nickname "Mafe," said her take-home pay is now only \$280 per pay period because their work hours at G4S Security were cut from 80 to 64 hours biweekly.

She only earns a minimum wage of \$5.05 an hour. Besides medical and food expenses, she also has to pay \$150 for their monthly apartment rent in San Vicente, as well as their utilities.

Quitugua said they were married in 2008. It was her first marriage. At the time, her husband was already taking medication for a 1998 massive stroke, plus

for his high blood pressure, diabetes and high cholesterol.

"In October alone, he had two seizures," she said.

Quitugua said the Medical Indigent Assistance Program has been a big help because it provides 75 percent of hospital expenses every time her husband is admitted for his seizures.

Somebody also gave her husband a wheelchair.

"A friend of mine is also helping us apply for Medicaid. I hope Medicaid will approve us. I was also told that if we would apply for food stamp, we would only get \$20 so I decided not to apply because just the taxi fare will cost us," she said, adding that they also don't have a car.

She rides a \$3 or \$4 taxi.

Quitugua said she and her husband appreciate any help that community members can also provide them with.

"There were times when my husband would say he just wants to die and that God neglected him. I tell him not to give up and to have faith. It's just so hard for him. Never mind that I also suffer, that I couldn't help but cry all the time, I just

want my husband to get the help he needs," she said.

Her husband will also undergo spinal cord surgery in the Philippines before the end of the year, after getting an approval from the Medical Referral Office.

For those who would like to help the family, Quitugua said she could be contacted at 789-2919, through their landlord at 235-0519, or through G4S at 233-3238.

Guam and CNMI County FSA asks producers to vote in county election

MAITE, Guam—Tom Camacho, executive director of USDA's Farm Service Agency for Guam and CNMI Counties, said yesterday that the county committee elections are in progress. Ballots were mailed to eligible voters and completed ballots must be returned by mail or to local FSA offices by Dec. 6, 2010.

"I strongly recommend that producers vote because the county committee members play a significant role in the Agency, especially at the county level," said Camacho. "County committee members make decisions on how federal farm programs will be administered locally," he said.

County committee members are elected to office by their peers and serve as the representative voice for agriculture producers in the county, and they are responsible for communicating with USDA to ensure that national programs are adapted to fit local needs. County committees are respon-

sible for making decisions on issues including commodity loans and payments, conservation programs, disaster assistance programs and emergency programs.

Camacho is encouraging minority and female producers to serve as county committee members. It is important that the county committee is composed of members who reflect the demographics of the local agriculture community. Interested candidates should contact their local FSA office to inquire about putting their name into nomination for the next county committee election.

Farmers and ranchers who participate in FSA programs are eligible to vote. If eligible voters do not receive a ballot by mail, one will be provided by the local USDA Service Center. Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked no later than Dec. 6, 2010. New county committee members will assume their role and related responsibilities on Jan. 1, 2011. **(USDA)**

Obama Cabinet officials convene 1st meeting the National Ocean Council

WASHINGTON—The White House Council on Environmental Quality and the Office of Science and Technology Policy recently convened the first Principals meeting of the National Ocean Council in the Roosevelt Room of the White House.

The meeting, attended by 25 Cabinet secretaries and senior officials from across the federal government, focused on key steps to implement the National Policy for the Stewardship of the Ocean, our Coasts, and Great Lakes.

Groundwork for the meeting was laid at an inaugural Deputy Committee meeting held in September that, was led by the Council co-chairs, OSTP Director John P. Holdren and CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley.

President Obama signed Executive Order 13547 on July 19, 2010, establishing the nation's first comprehensive, integrated National Policy for the Stewardship of the Ocean, our Coasts, and Great Lakes. The Executive Order created the Cabinet-level National Ocean Council to coordinate across the federal government to implement the

National Policy. The Principals meeting of the National Ocean Council was a critical starting point to begin to address the ambitious set of actions the National Policy lays out over the next 12 months.

During the meeting, the Council:

- Reviewed the role of the National Ocean Council and the work ahead;
- Approved the National Ocean Council charter;
- Approved operational items for establishing a Governance Coordinating Committee to formally engage with state, tribal, and local authorities;
- Approved the charter for the U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Task Force for it to continue to coordinate the collection of information to establish the full extent of the continental shelf of the United States in accordance with international law; and
- Established Interagency Working Groups to address topics including information management and communications and public and stakeholder engagement. **(PR)**



CASH FOR COLLEGE

Northern Marianas College dean of Student Services Leo Pangelinan talks about the variety of scholarships available to first-year college students during the Cash for College workshop held on Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010. The Cash for College workshop is aimed at assisting students and their parents in maximizing scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education.

NMC

Judiciary starts implementing partial closure

» Only Govendo, Manglona conducted hearings

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Only Superior Court associate judges Kenneth L. Govendo and Ramona V. Manglona held hearings yesterday, as the CNMI Judicial Council began implementing a partial closure of court operations due to a funding shortfall.

Govendo conducted a hearing in the morning on Saipan, while Manglona presided over proceed-

ings on Tinian, *Saipan Tribune* learned from some court staff.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja and associate judges David A. Wiseman and Perry B. Inos were in Guam yesterday to attend a judicial conference.

Four Superior Court employees, one staff of the Family Court, and three court marshals were on duty.

Closed were the cashier's office, administrative services unit, and the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

The clerk of court, judges' chambers, Probation Office, and the Family Court were open.

At the CNMI Supreme Court,

Chief Justice Miguel Demapan and associate justices Alexandro Castro and John A. Manglona reported for work, but there was no hearing, according to a court staff. A few staff members were also seen at the Supreme Court.

Many who wanted to renew their driver's licenses and obtain police clearances were caught unawares of the planned closure of the cashier's office.

"It's a waste of gas and time coming here. We don't know about this partial closure thing," a customer said after a marshal notified him about the cashier's office closure.

In a recent notice to lawyers

in the CNMI about the schedule of closure and partial closure, Naraja said the government's budget for the current fiscal year is not enough to meet personnel and operations costs.

Naraja said the court must therefore continue to maintain strict controls of expenditures to maximize its limited resources.

Effective Jan. 1, 2011, court operations will be partially closed every Friday on Saipan. The CNMI Judicial Council said only essential services will be provided and minimal staff will be designated to address docket requirements on austerity Fridays.

at home," Kikku said.

There are about 3,000 Chuukese in the CNMI, mostly on Saipan. Of the 3,000, about 1,000 are voters.

Paul is a member of the 16th Congress of the FSM. He chairs the Committee on Health and Social Affairs. Elected in 2007 for a four-year term, Paul is seeking reelection in March 2011. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Chuuk senator to meet with Chuukese community

Many members of the Chuuk community on Saipan are expected to attend a special meeting with Chuuk Sen. Setiro Paul, who is set to arrive today, Saturday.

Local courts deputy marshal Gideon Kikku, one of the Chuukese community leaders in the CNMI, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Paul will

be coming to the island from Guam.

Kikku said Paul will conduct a special meeting for Chuukese residents at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan today, Saturday, at 12pm.

"As our Chuuk senator-at-large to the Federated States of Micronesia Congress, I am asking all Chuukese to

come and share information," said Kikku, who used to serve as police chief of Chuuk.

The deputy marshal said that Paul needs to know about the status of his constituents.

"Senator Paul also has the responsibility to inform the Chuuk community in the CNMI on what's going on back

FOR SECOND PHASE OF SFSF GRANT

Board approves inclusion of 700 more laptops

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The CNMI Board of Education has approved an additional order of 700 laptops in its revised application for the second phase of the state fiscal stabilization fund.

The revised application will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education to reflect the

need for additional funding for the Public School System's One Laptop Per Child project.

The revision was approved at the board meeting on Rota on Wednesday.

PSS stands to receive a total of \$32.3 million from the \$44 million state fiscal stabilization fund allocated for the CNMI. Last year, it got the first phase

of the stimulus fund, amounting to \$24.3 million, which it used to restore teacher and counselor positions and to repair, renovate, and modernize 20 public schools on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. The balance of the funds are expected within the year.

PSS and BOE distributed 5,200 laptops to private and public high school students before schools

opened in September this year. Among private schools, only those from ninth to 12th grades were provided laptops. In public schools, laptops were given to students in seventh to 12th grades.

In the revised phase two application, PSS and BOE indicated that as of Oct. 10 this year they implemented the career technical education programs at all second-

ary schools but another 700 laptops are needed due to an enrollment increase in both private and public schools this school year.

Saipan Tribune learned that middle and high school students enrolled at PSS totaled 5,089 as of Sept. 24.

Hopwood only received a partial number of laptops, distributed to "deserving students."

At Chacha Oceanview Junior High, 291 laptops were delivered for 142 seventh graders and 149 eighth graders.

All of Rota Junior High's 91 students—46 seventh graders and 45 eighth graders—and all of Tinian Junior/High School's 264 students from seventh to 12th grade got their laptops.

Among secondary schools, Marianas High School had with the highest number of recipients with 1,392; Saipan Southern High School, 861; Kagman High School, 782; and Rota High School, 192.

NMI hotels want amendments to sweeping anti-smoking law

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Even before the sweeping anti-smoking law's regulations are to take effect on Dec. 1, hotels have asked lawmakers to amend the law to allow up to 80 percent of hotel rooms to be designated smoking rooms and to allow smoking on the balconies of those rooms.

Public Law 16-46 or the Smoke-Free Air Act of 2008, signed on Sept. 29, 2009, bans smoking in many public areas in the CNMI.

Nick Nishikawa, board chair of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, along with other board members, said since the passage of the no-smoking law, the high demand for smoking rooms remains constant.

He said any substantial reduction in the number of smoking rooms will adversely impact each hotel's ability to accommodate smoking guests.

HANMI, the only organization of hotels in the CNMI, seeks the Legislature's help in supporting the tourism industry by enacting two amendments to the anti-smoking law:

Allow up to 80 percent of hotel rooms as designated smoking rooms; and

Allow smoking on balconies of such designated smoking rooms.

"While we agree with the findings of the law that second-hand smoke is a health risk that must be minimized, and while we support the ban on smoking in public places, including our hotel restaurants and lobbies, we disagree with the findings of the law that there is no 'difference or a positive impact' to its enactment," the HANMI board members told Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) and House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan).

Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), chair of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, said yesterday he has yet to see HANMI's letter asking for amendments to the law.

Should a bill be introduced requesting amendments to the anti-smoking law, the

legislation is most likely going to be reviewed by Iguel's committee.

Nishikawa and other HANMI board members said the government cannot ignore the needs of the tourism industry, considering that government revenue mostly comes from tourism.

HANMI said 80 percent of CNMI visitors are from the Asian market, and some 80 percent of these visitors are smokers.

"HANMI is supportive of the goal of the Act and believes increasing the designated smoking rooms to 80 percent and allowing smokers to use the hotel balcony of their smoking-designated rooms can still meet the Act's intent to protect people's health," said the board members.

Besides Nishikawa, the five other HANMI board members who signed the letter to Tenorio and Manglona were vice chair Byung Kyu Park, secretary Hiroki Sugie, treasurer Michael S. Johnson, Kieran Daly, and Edward H. Cho.

The Department of Public Health adopted the permanent rules and regulations on the anti-smoking law, to take effect on Dec. 1.

The proposed regulations, published in the *Commonwealth Register*, are intended to clarify and implement the provisions of the Smoke-Free Air Act of 2008.

Under the sweeping anti-smoking law, smoking is prohibited in government facilities, in all enclosed areas and outdoor areas within 25 feet of any doorway entrance or exit to a government facility.

It also bans smoking in all enclosed areas of public places, including but not limited to areas available to and customarily used by the general public and other common-use areas.

Among these common areas are sports arenas and hotels and motels' lobby except in designated smoking spaces in an outdoor area 25 feet or farther from entrances and exits.

DPH, through the Bureau of Environmental Health, is mandated to enforce these regulations.

Nurses, medical staff get training on how to treat sexual assault victims

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Nurses and medical staff of the Commonwealth Health Center were recently trained on how to provide proper care for sexual assault victims.

A total of 19 nurses took part in the SANE/SAFE training, or sexual assault nurse examiner/sexual assault forensic examiner training. It was conducted by Dr. Linda Ledray and was held from Nov. 8 to 12 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Department of Public Health nursing director April Ricotta lauded

Ledray is an accomplished trainer, nurse, professor, and author from the U.S.

Ricotta said training participants included two Ob-Gyne nurses, three certified nurse midwives, two nurse practitioners, 10 registered nurses from Saipan, and two nurses from Tinian.

"The trainer is knowledgeable, patient, and a phenomenal resource. The nurses and providers are motivated, energized, and committed to serving the community, helping to decrease the numbers of rapes in the CNMI and increase the number of convictions of assailants,"



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CHC nurses and medical staff who participated in the weeklong sexual assault nurse examiner/sexual assault forensic examiner workshop pose with the training team after a session Thursday. The training was held from Nov. 8 through 12 on island.

said Ricotta.

The first two days of training dealt with generalized multidisciplinary didactic training and included representatives from Karidat, Criminal Justice Planning Agency, the Office of the Attorney General, the De-

partment of Public Safety, the Division of Youth Services, Community Guidance Center, social workers, and advocates.


According to Ricotta, the goal of the training was to increase the knowledge and expertise of a wide variety of commu-

nity members, particularly the nursing and medical staff of the hospital.


"We plan to develop a sexual assault response team [SART] in the near future to fully address the needs of a rape or sexual assault victim when s/he presents for care. One member of

the SART team is the SANE or SAFE," said Ricotta.

The nurses and medical practitioners were trained on interviewing techniques, documentation, evidence collection, chain of custody, and forensic examinations.



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NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities is hereby gives notice that will hold the third (3rd) Quarterly Meeting on Friday, November 19, 2010 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Rota Resort Hotel on Rota.

Agenda

- I. Preliminary Matters**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes of Special Meeting – Sept. 16, 2010
- II. Action Items**
 - a. Office Operation Hours – Governor's Directive
 - b. Appointments of Committee Chairpersons
 - c. Amendment of Approved FY 2010 Budget
- III. Reports:**
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Executive Director
- IV. Old Business**
 - a. Update of Call-a-Ride RFP
- V. New Business**
 - a. House Bill 17-43
 - b. Commonwealth Election Enhancement Project
- VI. Executive Session**
- VII. Miscellaneous**
- VIII. Next Meeting – January 2011**
- IX. Adjournment**
Note: Pursuant to PL. 8-41, Section 13(a)7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session.

In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 3 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ **THOMAS J. CAMACHO**
Chairman

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A. (Administrative)

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pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of
The Petition To
Appoint General
Guardianship For:

**REMEDIADA
TENORIO,**
Minor Child,

By:

**TASI M. FLEMING and
BELVILYN TENORIO
FLEMING,**
Petitioners.

FCD GU
CIVIL
ACTION
NO. 10-0536

AMENDED
NOTICE
OF
HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a
Petition to Appoint Guardians for the
above-named child by Tasi M.
Fleming and Belvilyn T. Fleming, was
filed with the above-entitled
Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said Petition for
Appointment of Guardians will be held
at the above-entitled Honorable Court
at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe,
Saipan, NMI on the 24th, day of
November, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. in
Courtroom 205 A, before Associate
Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 12th day of November,
2010.

/s/ **BERNADITA SABLAN**
Clerk of Court

By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Car seat assistance program resumes

The Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Office will resume the Car Seat Assistance Voucher Program effective Monday, Nov. 15, 2010.

Car Seat Assistance vouchers are for \$100 per household. Applicants are required to provide the following documents when applying:

1) Birth certificate of the child

2) Vehicle registration
3) Identification of parent or legal guardian (proof of legal guardianship)

4) Price quotation from participat-

ing stores:

- i. ACE Hardware/Gualo Rai
- ii. J.C. Tenorio Ent./Joeten-Susupe
- iii. YCO Corporation/Liberty Plaza
- iv. Lollipops

Should you have any questions, call 664-9121/9122 or stop by DPS in Susupe, Monday to Friday, 9am

to 11am and 1pm to 3pm (closed on holidays and government Austerity Fridays).

This program is made possible by the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and DPS. **(DPS)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Second Saturday Strides today

Bring friends and family and come on down to the Commonwealth Cancer Association's *Second Saturday Strides* today, Nov. 13, 2010, from the Minatchom Atdao to the Quartermaster intersection and back. Registration starts at 5:30am, and a \$5 donation fee is requested. All proceeds go to the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Participants who complete the run/walk will delight in tasty sample giveaways from Micronesian Brokers, and coupons for delicious fat-free frozen yogurt from Scoops. In recognition of Lung Cancer Awareness Month, participants are requested to wear grey or white. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email cca@cca-marianas.org. **(CCA)**

Navy to conduct training on Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Navy will conduct training on Warning Area-517 on Nov. 16-17 from 8am to 5pm.

The public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from

these areas during the times and dates indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. **(USN)**

Book sale today at public library

The Library Friends will be having a Book Sale at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library today, Nov. 13, 2010, from 7am to 12pm.

Hardcovers, \$1; paperbacks, \$.50. Everything is priced to sell. Come look for some special bargains.

All proceeds will benefit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, helping to improve general library offerings. Please come and support your library! **(PR)**

'Zombie Prom' at PIC this weekend

Zombies are coming! The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands will stage the musical comedy, *Zombie Prom* by

Dempsey and Rowe today, Saturday, and Sunday at Charley's Cabaret, PIC. Show time is 7pm on Saturday and 3pm matinee on Sunday. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$8 adults and \$5 students. **(PR)**

Kagman High sets 'Freshmen Literacy Night'

Kagman High School is hosting the "Freshmen Literacy Night" in coordination with the Parent Teacher Student Association during the monthly meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 16, from 5pm to 6pm, in the school cafeteria. Important PTSA, school and freshmen class matters will be discussed. The freshmen class counselor will be available for inquiries as well. Should you have any questions, call Kagman High School at 664-3780. **(PR)**

Saipan mayor on Marianas Agupa today

Today, Marianas Agupa will feature Mayor Donald G. Flores, Mayor of Saipan, from 10am to 10:30am, on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be the ongoing projects by the Office of the Mayor and the establishment of a sister city relationship with Japan and Korea.

The Chamorro Talk Show Program is

hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Featured reports are as follows: World report by former mayor Joseph S. Inos followed by special report from Rota with correspondent Thomas D. Mendiola and a report from Tinian by former senator David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. **(PR)**

Last call for submissions to island writing anthology

The deadline to submit original work for the upcoming anthology *Stories from Wild Bill's Cafe: Life, Love and*

Spicy Tofu in the Northern Mariana Islands is Dec. 15.

Submitted work will be blind reviewed by a panel of editors. The lead editors of *Stories from Wild Bill's Cafe* are Jane Mack, Joe Race, Jaime Vergara, and Angelo O'Connor Villagomez.

Writers interested in submitting work for the anthology can contact the editors at WildBillStories@gmail.com. Submission guidelines are available upon request. Writers whose work is chosen for submission will receive two (2) copies of *Stories from Wild Bill's Cafe*. **(PR)**

CUC

From Page 1

According to CUC chief financial officer Chuck Warren, the rate change would cover a projected yearly operating loss of \$5.6 million. He said the utility's electric division spends \$32 million every year to provide electricity to its customers.

CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae said the new cost must be absorbed in order to ensure the continuous supply of power on the islands.

"If we are going to keep the lights on we must cover our new costs. Right now our power plant has virtually no spare parts, many of our power distribution are failing, and our old trucks can't get our people out to the customers' job sites," said Malae in a statement yesterday.

According to Malae, much of this "base rate" increase is in response to a federal court order for CUC to clean up and prevent oil pollution.

"The order demands people, equipment and construction that federal grants will not fund. [As an example] our large oil pipeline in Lower Base won't stop leaking. We must replace that pipeline before it pollutes the lagoon...and the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] demands it," he explained.

On behalf of CUC, Malae apologized to the public for the proposed rate hike. "I must apologize. These are tough times. It is difficult to be asking for even these few dollars of rate increase at this time. We really have tried to operate off of new efficiencies and federal grants before asking our customers for this base rate increase. We hope that our customers understand—CUC must keep the lights on and the pumps in our water and sewer systems pumping. And we need this money to do it."

CUC officials said this is its first increase to its minimum monthly charges in a decade. All other electric increases, they said, have been "pass-throughs" to the oil supplier so CUC could buy the oil that it burns to make electricity.

CUC's proposed base rate hike indicates that the average residential ratepayer would experience an increase of \$3 to \$4 monthly in their monthly electric bill.

CUC said that higher volume users and commercial customers would experience higher increases because about two-thirds of every customer's bill pays for oil.

Saipan Tribune learned that the typical residential customer, at 500 kilowatt-hour per month, pays a total of \$136 monthly and roughly \$90 is used to pay Mobil Oil for the diesel oil used in CUC's power plants. The base rate increase would add \$4.

CITIZENS

From Page 1

one had a valid reason not to be present.

Bennett, during the ceremony, told the new U.S. citizens to preserve and use their native language, heritage and culture for their children, grandchildren and for the United States.

"For over 200 years, our country has been blessed with people coming here from all over the world becoming citizens, bringing with them their languages, their culture, their heritage, and that diversity, in my opinion, makes us great," said Bennett.

Most of those who acquired their citizenship were through marriage to U.S. citizens, while the rest were as a result of their children's petition for them to become citizens.

Regula Antonio Gutzwiller-Malakut, originally from Switzerland, said she's so happy to get her citizenship. She was with family and friends at the ceremony.

"I still can't believe it. It took me a while to have this," Malakut said in an interview. She has been on Saipan for over three years.

After they took their oath, the 17 also watched a video message from President Barack Obama.

"It's an honor and a privilege to call you a fellow citizen of the United States of America. This is now officially your country, your own to protect, to defend and to serve through active and engaged citizenship," the president said.

He said the U.S. is a nation united not by any one culture, ethnicity or ideology, but by the principles of opportunity, equality and liberty that are enshrined in its founding documents.

Obama said the privileges of citizenship have corresponding responsibility.

"With the privileges of citizenship



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Foreign nationals take their oath to become U.S. citizens in a special naturalization ceremony at the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands yesterday morning.

there will come great responsibilities so I ask that you use your freedoms and your talents to contribute to the good of our nation and the world. Always remember that in America, no dream is impossible," he said.

Toward the end of his message, Obama said he's proud to welcome the new citizens.

"You can help write the next great chapter in our American story and together we can keep the beacon that is America, burning bright for all the world to see. I'm proud to welcome you as a new citizen of this country. May God bless you and may God continue to bless the United States of America," he added.

Bennett, who also addressed the crowd, said America has not one religion, one set of thinking, or one set of morality or values.

"You may hear voices in this land that there's only one true American religion. That's not true. You can believe whatever you want to believe. You can be a Christian, a Jew, a Hindu, a Buddhist, a Muslim, or have no religion at

all. That's one of the great freedoms in America. You may hear voices in our country that there's only one true American way to think [on] political matters, economic matters social matters, don't believe them. As an American, you can think anything you want and adhere to any political, economic and social values you want to. You may hear voices that there's only one true American set of morality or values. That's not true either," he said.

Bennett, who came to Saipan for the first time early this year as a tourist, also reminded the new citizens that "this court and the other courts of the United States of America are here to protect your rights as Americans."

The court clerk then led the pledge of allegiance.

After the ceremony, the relatives and friends of the 17 took photos with Bennett and Haith.

The naturalization ceremony, which was one of several taking place this week across the United States, also comes almost a year since the Nov. 28, 2009 federal takeover of CNMI immigration.

CORRECTIONS

From Page 1

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* that based on preliminary investigation by DPS Boating Safety Section officers, there was no foul play.

He stressed, however, that investigation is still ongoing.

Blas said DPS received a call about the drowning incident at 11:21am.

He said investigation showed that Castro and a male companion had gone to Obyan Beach at 8am to spear fish outside the reef.

As the two were free diving, the companion noticed that Castro was having problems when he reached the surface.

The companion checked Castro and saw that he had lost consciousness.

The companion grabbed Castro and brought him to the shore, about 100 feet away from their location.

The companion asked other people at the beach for help and then applied

cardiopulmonary resuscitation on the victim, who was not breathing.

The guard posted at the beach and some people immediately called for police assistance.

Boating Safety Section launched a rescue boat, but when they arrived at the location the victim was already ashore. Medics then transported Castro to CHC.

Last Oct. 27, Japanese tourist Masaaki Isobe was reported missing while snorkeling with some tourists at the reef line at Tank Beach in Kagman. Local and federal authorities conducted search and rescue operations for three days, but failed to find him.

Last August, a man drowned while his companion was not located when they reportedly fell into the water after fishing at the cliff line of Naftan Point in Obyan, Saipan. Both victims were Chinese nationals.

On Feb. 21, 2010 two men identified as James Ocha and Juan N. Dowai drowned while fishing in separate incidents at Sugar Dock in Chalan Kanoa and at a beach in Tanapag.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Afghanistan: Never mind

A year ago, the Obama White House was hip-deep in its assessment of what to do about the war in Afghanistan. Thanks to Bob Woodward's book "Obama's Wars," published in September, the nation has a blow-by-blow account of what went on in those sessions.

Some generals wanted as many as 60,000 more troops, but the official request was for 40,000 more. The president's "war czar," Lt. Gen. Douglas Lute, risked his career by advising the president that any military solution was likely to fail. Vice President Joe Biden warned that if the president sent any more troops, "We're locked into Vietnam."

In the end, as is his wont, Mr. Obama split the baby—more troops, but with a deadline for bringing them home. In a speech at West Point on Dec. 1, Mr. Obama said, "I have determined that it is in our vital national interest to send an additional 30,000 U.S. troops to Afghanistan. After 18 months, our troops will begin to come home."

Woodward wrote that Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., asked the president if his deadline for beginning troop withdrawal was firm. "I have to say that," the president replied. "I can't let this be a war without end, and I can't lose the whole Democratic Party."

On Tuesday, one year minus three weeks since West Point, came word leaked by administration and military officials to the McClatchy Newspapers: Never mind.

The July 2011 deadline is about to undergo a serious fuzzing-up. "Of course, we're not going to fully transition to the Afghans by July 2011," one senior administration is quoted as saying. "Right now, we think we can start in 2011 and fully transition sometime in 2014."

De-emphasizing the deadline represents a victory for the president's Republican critics, who saw the deadline as an invitation to Taliban commanders to kill time.

It was the Republican takeover of the House of Representatives in last week's election that gave the Democratic president room to maneuver. House Democrats, increasingly unhappy with the war, had threatened to stall war funding. Now the GOP gets to reclaim part ownership of the war.

But here's a fun fact for deficit hawks to know and tell: Afghanistan operations now are costing U.S. taxpayers roughly \$6 billion a month, based on current troop levels of 94,000. At that rate, pushing the withdrawal deadline back three years will cost an extra \$216 billion.

Perhaps it all will be worth it on that glorious day in December 2014, when the last U.S. soldier turns his post over to an Afghan National Army soldier. That's the goal set by Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who by then, we must assume, will have been visited by the honesty and efficiency fairy.

Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, commander of the NATO training mission in Afghanistan, said Tuesday that he thinks the training goal can be met, but U.S. forces still will have to be on duty as backup forces even after Afghan troops take the lead.

So scratch that 2014 date. Make it 2015 or 2016 before the last U.S. troops can be withdrawn. By then the United States will have been in Afghanistan for 14 or 15 years. The Soviet Union was there 10 years. We'll break that record sometime next year.

Mr. Biden was right. We're locked into Vietnam.

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Iraqis despair on possibility of peace

By KHALID WALEED
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

BAGHDAD—The most recent round of bombings and deaths have left many Iraqis stunned, as security officials look for answers.

The Ministry of Health reported that on Nov. 2, at least 14 car bombs and three improvised explosive devices killed 86 people and wounded 360 others across the capital.

Those apparently coordinated attacks came just a day after gunmen stormed a Christian church during services, leading to a bloody siege that killed 52 people and injured 73.

Analysts here are divided over whether the latest round of violence will prompt political leaders finally to end their bickering and form a government, a full eight months after parliamentary elections, or whether the killings will only make the stalemate worse.

In the streets, however, there is no such uncertainty. The average citizen is convinced that the security situation is hopeless.

"The security situation is deteriorating, and I don't believe it will ever be solved. There is no hope that we will ever be safe," said Abdullah al-Nawfali, head of the Christian Endowment. "I can say that this is the beginning of the end of Christians in Iraq. I believe they will all leave now and there will be none left after thousands of years."

Iraqi officials have been quick to blame the attacks on foreign-backed terror groups and assure the Shia community that the dark days of sectarian bloodshed that threatened to divide the country are not about to return.

"Baghdad Operation Command is reviewing its plans, but the situation is under control. It is true that a tragedy has occurred, but we are going to fix the problem. These bombings were supported by (foreign) countries, and because they occurred in areas inhabited mostly by a specific sect, we are examining the situation closely and carefully," said Qasim Ata, spokesman of the Baghdad Operation Command, the capital's security oversight body.

Ata did not elaborate on his charge, but Ministry of Defense spokesman Mohammed al-Askari alleged that the attacks are part of al-Qaeda's overall plan to destabilize Iraq.

"These bombings were carried out by al-Qaeda with help from elements of the Baathist Party (of Saddam Hussein), and they targeted all Iraqis, not just Shia. This has been a huge blow, we must admit it, but an investigation is under way and we are chasing those behind the attacks," he said.

And according to Askari, those responsible for the attack on the Christian church were foreigners as well.

"The gunmen were not Iraqi," he said, citing eyewitness accounts. "They were dressed in the uniforms of security firms and they spoke Arabic with a non-Iraqi accent. Security forces will impose tight measures on churches on Sunday and mosques on Friday because we have information that religious sites will be possible targets."

But Baghdad residents have heard such assurances for years.

Atheer Jasim, who survived the church attack, expressed the widespread frustration Iraqis have with the effectiveness of the security forces. Many have questioned how bomb-laden gunmen were able to penetrate into the heart of Baghdad past multiple checkpoints.

"For years we have heard that security is going to improve; but where is the improvement? I don't believe it will ever improve," he said.

Some believe the first step to improving public safety is the formation of a functioning government. Last month, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of a lawsuit presented by a civil society group that parliament was in violation of the constitution for failing to elect a speaker by the deadline mandated by the constitution, and ordered the lawmakers to reconvene.

Jason Gluck, senior rule of law adviser for the U.S. Institute of Peace, believes the attacks may have shaken Iraq's political elite into forging a working coalition.

"While negotiations on the next government will remain difficult, there is a sense that action is critical and mandatory," Gluck said.

But Joost Hiltermann, director of the Middle East program of the International Crisis Group, questioned whether the recent violence will have an impact on the stalled government talks.

"They add to the pressure to form a government, but they will do little to break the deadlock," he said.

As the political wrangling continues, the overwhelming emotion on the streets of Baghdad remains despair.

"Security will never improve," said restaurateur Ahmed Ali, an eyewitness to the bombings. "If I had enough money I would leave this country at once."

Khalid Waleed is a reporter in Iraq who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict. Readers may write to the author at the Institute for War & Peace Reporting, 48 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8LT, U.K.; Web site: www.iwpr.net. For information about IWPR's funding, please go to <http://www.iwpr.net/index.pl?top=supporters.html>.

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By **DAN ARIELY AND
MICHAEL I. NORTON**
Los Angeles Times

Michael I. Norton is an associate professor of business administration at the Harvard Business School; Dan Ariely is the James B. Duke Professor of Behavioral Economics at Duke University and the author of *The Upside of Irrationality: The Unexpected Benefits of Defying Logic at Work and at Home*. They wrote this for the *Los Angeles Times*.



Spreading the wealth

The gap between the wealthiest Americans and the poorest is bigger than at any time since the 1920s—just before the Depression. According to an analysis this year by Edward Wolff of New York University, the top 20 percent of wealthy individuals own about 85 percent of the wealth, while the bottom 40 percent own very near 0 percent. Many in that bottom 40 percent not only have no assets, they have negative net wealth.

A gap this pronounced raises the politically divisive question of whether there is a need for wealth redistribution in the United States. This central question underlies such hot-button issues as whether the Bush tax cuts should be allowed to expire and whether the government should provide more assistance to the poor. But before those issues can be addressed, it's important to understand how Americans feel about the country's increasing economic polarity.

We recently asked a representative sample of more than 5,000 Americans (young and old, men and women, rich and poor, liberal and conservative) to answer two questions. They first were asked to estimate the current level of wealth inequality in the United States, and then they were asked about what they saw as an ideal level of wealth inequality.

In our survey, Americans drastically underestimated the current gap between the very rich and the poor. The typical respondent believed that the top 20 percent of Americans owned 60 percent of the wealth, and the bottom 40 percent owned 10 percent. They knew, in other words, that wealth in the United States was not distributed equally, but were unaware of just how unequal that distribution was.

When we asked respondents to tell us what their ideal distribution of wealth was, things got even more interesting: Americans wanted the top 20 percent to own just over 30 percent of the wealth, and the bottom 40 percent to own about 25 percent. They still wanted the rich to be richer than the poor, but they wanted the disparity to be much less extreme.

But was there consensus among Americans about their ideal country? Importantly, the answer was an unequivocal "yes." While liberals and the poor favored slightly more equal distributions than conservatives and the wealthy, a large majority of every group we surveyed—from the poorest to the richest, from the most conservative to the most liberal—agreed that the current level of wealth inequality was too high and wanted a more equitable distribution of wealth. In fact, Americans reported wanting to live in a country that looks more like Sweden than the United States.

So, if Americans say they want a country that is more equal than they believe it to be, and they believe that the country is more equal than it actually is, the question becomes how we lessen these disparities. Our survey didn't ask what measures people would be willing to support to address the wealth gap. But to achieve the ideal spelled out by those surveyed, about 50 percent of the total wealth in the United States would have to be taken from the top 20 percent and distributed to the remaining 80 percent.

Few people would argue for an immediate redistribution of 50 percent of the nation's wealth, and such a move would unquestionably create chaos. In addition, despite the fact that individual Americans give large amounts to charitable causes each year—in effect, a way of transferring wealth from the rich to the poor—the notion of government redistribution raises hackles among many constituencies.

Despite these reservations, our results suggest that policies that increase inequality—those that favor the wealthy, say, or that place a greater burden on the poor—are unlikely to reflect the desires of Americans from across the political and economic spectrum. Rather, they seem to favor policies that involve taking from the rich and giving to the poor.

The dangers of an imperial presidency

It's easy to suppose that the Republican wave will put President Obama on the defensive. But that would be a mistake. House Republicans may repeat then-Speaker Newt Gingrich's blunder and shut down the government, but their other weapons are distinctly small-bore. The new congressional committee chairmen will predictably launch investigations into real or imagined scandals, but this will cause political embarrassment, nothing more.

In contrast, presidents control a formidable arsenal that often permits them to act independently of Congress. They can take military action against al-Qaeda in Yemen or other places to preempt a terrorist attack, or invoke sweeping emergency measures if an attack succeeds.

They can also act unilaterally to transform domestic policy. This was impossible during the first 150 years of the republic. Until the New Deal, the president had no permanent staff. He governed through his Cabinet, largely composed of independent potentates who often resisted his demands. But in 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt persuaded Congress to give him six special assistants. Seventy years onward, these six have become 500, and presidents of both parties have vastly increased their powers.

President Clinton took it a decisive step further. Without gaining statutory permission, he authorized his staff to issue policy directives to the rest of the executive branch. After the Democrats lost Congress in 1994, Clinton used these new powers to maximum effect. He typically went into the pressroom himself to announce his staff's regulatory initiatives with great fanfare. By directing the bureaucracy to implement his program, he could make an end-run around Congress, but at a grave risk to the rule of law. As Elena Kagan put it when she was a Harvard law professor: "Presidents, more than agency officials acting independently, tend to push the envelope when interpreting statutes"—generating a tendency toward "lawlessness."

These regulatory power grabs were facilitated by another development that began in the Nixon administration. Over the last generation, presidents have created an elite corps of lawyers who have powerful incentives to tell them what they want to hear.

Until President Nixon's time, the Justice Department held a virtual monopoly on legal advice to the chief executive. But Nixon's White House counsel, John Dean, took the unprecedented step of creating a small legal staff to compete with Justice during the Watergate era. This staff has grown to include about 40 extremely able lawyers—but all gain their jobs through political connections. This

By **BRUCE ACKERMAN**
Los Angeles Times

Bruce Ackerman is a professor of law and political science at Yale and the author, most recently, of *The Decline and Fall of the American Republic*. He wrote this for the *Los Angeles Times*.



also is increasingly true of the 25 lawyers who serve in the special division of the Justice Department, the Office of Legal Counsel, that continues to advise the president. This highly politicized process led to legal documents like the Bush-era "torture memos" that defended the indefensible.

Unfortunately, the current administration has done nothing to change this arrangement. Obama loyalists have simply replaced Bush loyalists in key legal positions. Like their predecessors, they are in a position to generate impressive-looking legal documents to support presidential assertions of unilateral power at home and abroad. Presidents Clinton and Bush repeatedly made use of this legal tactic after they lost control of Congress in 1994 and 2006, respectively. It will require remarkable self-restraint from Obama to reject this time-tested formula for success during political adversity.

And yet the president should pause before proceeding down the path blazed by Clinton and Bush. Obama should listen instead to voter anxieties about the arbitrariness of big government and reform the White House counsel's office. He should work with Congress to create a new institutional framework that encourages the president's lawyers to say "no" when their professional judgment tells them their boss is moving into forbidden legal territory.

Forty years ago, historian Arthur Schlesinger famously warned Americans about the dangers of an imperial presidency. These imperial dynamics have accelerated in the recent past. The challenge is to develop a broad range of pragmatic reforms that will reinvigorate America's constitutional tradition of checks and balances—and make them a key element of the next political agenda.

If this reform effort fails, past presidential misadventures during Watergate, Iran-Contra and the "war on terror" may only serve as prologue to more terrible abuses of presidential power in the generation ahead.

Restoring sanity in America

By **SUSAN KOSCIS**
COMMON GROUND NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON—"Hug a Muslim Today" was the first hand-held sign I saw upon arriving to the Rally to Restore Sanity, which was held on a beautiful autumn afternoon on the National Mall in Washington last weekend. That sign set the tone for what was to come.

I'm a child of the 1960s, which was perhaps why the vibes at the rally felt so familiar. Although the crowd was estimated at 200,000 people and it was difficult to hear or see what was happening on the stage, people were polite, peaceful and positive.

For three hours we stood crowded together listening to music and other performances. The crowd cheered when renowned singer Cat Stevens, who now goes by the name Yusuf Islam, came on stage to sing his iconic classic song "Peace Train." The crowd also listened to poetry, but mostly they came for the comedy—all of it poking fun at the hotly polarized political and cultural climate in America today.

A message emerged for "We the People," not just for those of us at the rally, but for all Americans—and even for those beyond our borders: "We can have animus and not be enemies, and we need to know the difference between the two. If we amplify everything, we hear nothing," said Jon Stewart.

Stewart, host of "The Daily Show" on Comedy Central cable television, was the organizing force behind the rally. Toward the end of the rally Stewart became serious and gave one of the most brilliant speeches I have heard in a long time.

Stewart laid some of the blame for the polarized atmosphere in the United States on the media. He chastised those media outlets that exaggerate our differences and inflame tensions. He acknowledged that extremist rhetoric in the media may be good for ratings, but it is not good for our country.

Responding to the way that the media exaggerates differences between people, Stewart said, "The media can hold its magnifying glass up to our problems and illuminate problems heretofore unseen,

or it can use its magnifying glass to light ants on fire." He added that Americans don't live "on cable TV. Where we live is in our values and in the principles that form the foundation that sustains us."

Commenting on the growing fear that Americans have toward Muslims, he said that the inability to distinguish between terrorists and Muslims makes us less safe, not more.

Stewart took issue with the media telling us that America is ideologically divided because the reality is that most Americans don't live their lives as Democrats or Republicans or conservatives or liberals. We go about our daily routines, doing the best we can, as people and not as ideologues.

In his book, "Practical Intelligence," author Karl Albrecht makes the case that words are important: "Words can be weapons, they can be tools, and they can be art. They can inspire, incite, inflame, sooth, inform, educate, mislead, manipulate and confuse. Leaders have understood and capitalized on the psychology of language and have used this knowledge to arouse and mobilize people for both good and evil. Poetry, literature, popular slogans, metaphors, and patriotic songs all have the power to move people in profound ways."

How we use words was at the heart of the rally. No one advocated for ignoring or forgetting that we have very real differences between us. But the rally reminded us that we can be polite to each other, we can listen to each other, and we can learn from each other.

What have we got to lose from trying it?






Looking around me I saw signs reflecting this spirit: "Be Excellent to Each Other," "Nice is The New Cool," "Civilization Requires Civility," and one that perhaps we could all agree with, no matter what our politics, religion, or beliefs: A little girl held a sign that read simply, "More Chocolate Please."

Susan Koscis is the director of communications at Search for Common Ground. This article was written for the Common Ground News Service. Readers may write to the author at cgnews@sfcg.org or at Search for Common Ground, 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20009. Web site: www.common-groundnews.org.

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| TODAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Breezy Saturday and Sunday. East winds 15 to 25 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Breezy Saturday and Sunday. East winds 15 to 25 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
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Micronesia

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|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲ 88 ▼ 81 |
| Palau | Rain | ▲ 86 ▼ 78 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲ 88 ▼ 77 |
| Chuuk | Rain | ▲ 84 ▼ 78 |
| Pohnpei | Rain | ▲ 88 ▼ 71 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲ 87 ▼ 75 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲ 85 ▼ 75 |

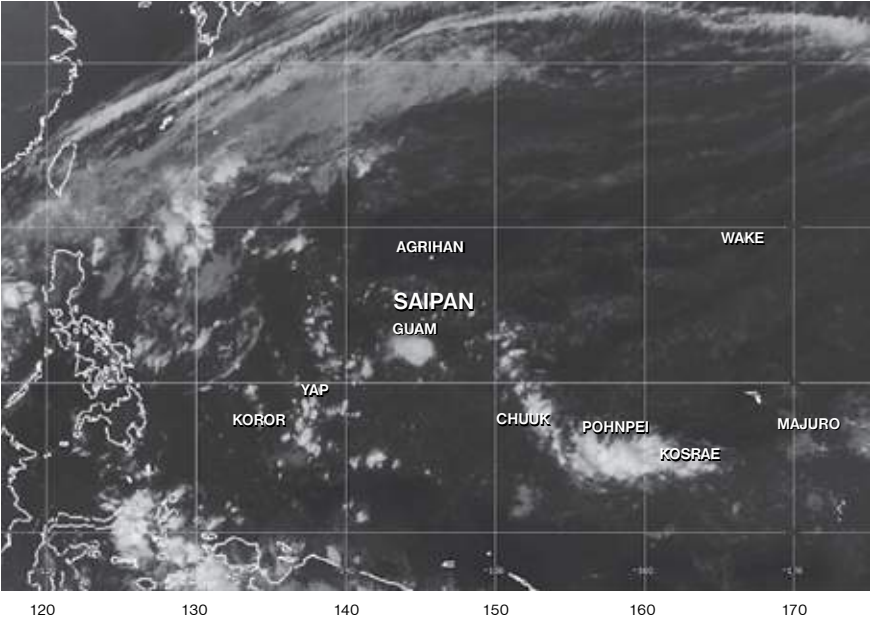
Around The Globe

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Auckland | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 68 ▼ 58 |
| Beijing | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 46 ▼ 23 |
| Hong Kong | Thundershowers | ▲ 77 ▼ 58 |
| Honolulu | Sunny | ▲ 83 ▼ 73 |
| London | Rain | ▲ 55 ▼ 47 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲ 77 ▼ 52 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲ 87 ▼ 76 |
| Melbourne | Rain | ▲ 75 ▼ 57 |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 77 ▼ 63 |
| New York | Sunny | ▲ 62 ▼ 43 |
| Osaka | Mostly Cloudy | ▲ 69 ▼ 53 |
| Paris | Rain | ▲ 58 ▼ 52 |
| Pusan | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 62 ▼ 42 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 72 ▼ 53 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲ 50 ▼ 46 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 70 ▼ 55 |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 49 ▼ 34 |
| Tokyo | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 66 ▼ 54 |
| Washington, DC | Sunny | ▲ 65 ▼ 45 |

Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|--|
| 6:38 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.1 Feet | |
| 2:12 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet | |
| 8:14 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 1.1 Feet | |

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A nearly-stationary front extends northeastward from 20N130E to beyond 25N163E. Converging winds near and south of the front are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the area northwest of a line from 9N130E to 13N136E to 22N140E. A surface trough near Guam extends southeastward from 14N143E to 9N146E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the trough within 60 miles of a line from 13N143E southeastward to 10N145E northeastward to 13N148E. Another surface trough between Pohnpei and Kosrae runs from 7N160E to 1N166E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 75 miles of the trough. A trade-wind disturbance just east of the date line is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of Majuro between 5N and 9N east of 176E.

Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 6:18 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Sunday | 6:18 AM | 5:45 PM |
| Monday | 6:19 AM | 5:44 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:19 AM | 5:44 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:20 AM | 5:44 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| Today | 12:06 PM | 11:58 PM |
| Sunday | 12:43 PM | |
| Monday | 1:18 PM | 12:45 AM |
| Tuesday | 1:53 PM | 1:31 AM |
| Wednesday | 2:28 PM | 2:17 AM |

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|--|---------|----------|--------------------------|--|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM | | | | GUAM-SAIPAN | | | |
| C09317 | 4:25am | 5:15am | Daily | C09316 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| C09313 | 7:55am | 8:45am | 3, 6 | C09596 | 6:35am | 7:25am | 3, 6 |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 | C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09601 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09603 | 3:05pm | 3:55pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 | C09602 | 1:40pm | 2:30pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09605 | 6:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily | C09604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily | C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:10am | 8:45am | Daily | DL298 | 10:25am | 3:05pm | Daily |
| DL285 | 6:40am | 9:15am | Daily | DL286 | 3:50pm | 8:25pm | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:15pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:00pm | 12:30am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 5 | OZ607 | 9:10pm | 2:20am+1 | 4, 7 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ604 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 | OZ605 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ604 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | OZ603 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ606 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 | OZ603 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 | FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ604/701 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN | OZ704/605 | 12:10am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ604/701 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | | | | via ICN |
| C09317/891 | 2:45am | 9:45am | 3, 6 via GUM | DL172/286 | 7:55am | 8:25pm | Daily via NRT |
| DL285/173 | 6:40am | 10:15pm | Daily via NRT | C0890/9606 | 10:55am | 8:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| C09313/893 | 7:55am | 10:10pm | 3 via GUM-Palau | OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| C09603/933 | 3:05pm | 8:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM | OZ702/603 | 1:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| C09603/893 | 3:05pm | 10:10pm | 5 via GUM-Palau | C0892/9596 | 9:55pm | 7:25am+1 | 3 via GUM-Palau |
| OZ606/703 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN | C0892/9596 | 9:55pm | 7:50am+1 | 6 via GUM-Palau |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:30pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM | PR110/C0596 | 10:00pm | 7:25am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| | | | | C0934/9596 | 10:55pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| | | | | C0934/9596 | 11:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 3, 5 via GUM |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG | | | | HONG KONG-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ604/721 | 2:10am | 12:00am | 1 via ICN | OZ724/605 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ604/721 | 2:40am | 12:00am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | | | | via ICN |
| C09603/909 | 3:05pm | 9:25pm | 1, 5 via GUM | OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ606/723 | 3:20pm | 10:35pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/603 | 1:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| | | | | C0910/9596 | 10:30pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |
| Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana | | | | ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.) | | | |

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 113 | 11:40 | 11:50 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily | FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily | FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily | | | | |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | Tinian-Saipan | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily | FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily | FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily | FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily | FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily | FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily | FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily | FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| | | | | FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

| SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| CATHOLIC  | | | |
| Mt. Carmel Cathedral Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro Parish office hours: Monday-Saturday 8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm | | | |
| Korean Center Sunday: 10:30am Wednesday: 10am Thursday-Friday: 8pm Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm | | | |
| Kristo Rai Parish Sunday- Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm) Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated) Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm. Telephone no. 285-0273 | | | |
| Santa Soledad Mission Parish Monday: 6pm Tuesday: 6pm Wednesday: 6pm Friday: 6pm Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass) Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass) Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am, Saturday: 4-6pm Telephone no. 256-4568 | | | |
| Saint Jude Parish Monday- Friday: 6pm Saturday: 7am Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm Office is close every Thursday and Saturday Telephone no. 288-0007 | | | |
| San Antonio Parish Monday-Friday 6pm Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children) Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm Close on Sunday and Monday | | | |
| San Francisco de Borja-Rota Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English Monday and Tuesday: 6am Chamorro Wednesday: 6pm English Thursday: 6am Chamorro Friday: 6am English Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog Sunday: anticipated mass | | | |
| San Isidro-Rota Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am Monday-Friday: 7pm Saturday: 5am and 7pm | | | |
| San Jose (Oleai) Parish Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm Thursday: day off Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm Telephone no. 234-6991 | | | |
| San Roque Parish Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English | | | |
| Monday: 6pm English Tuesday: 6pm English Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil Thursday: 6pm English Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays) Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143 | | | |
| San Vicente Parish Monday-Friday: 6pm, Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month) Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm Parish office hours: daily 9-11am Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131 | | | |
| Santa Remedios Sunday: 8am Monday: 6pm (1 st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm) Tuesday- Friday: 6pm Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm | | | |
| PROTESTANT  | | | |
| Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm | | | |
| Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm Telephone no. 234-6026/27 | | | |
| Chinese Christian Church of Saipan Worship Services: Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm Telephone no. 235-8540 | | | |
| Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm As Perdido Road Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950 Tel. No. (670) 235-8590 Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org | | | |
| Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau, Call 235-0545 for directions | | | |
| Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service) GBI Classes: 4-6pm Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through | | | |
| out the week) Telephone no. 322-5680 | | | |
| Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan Wednesday: 7:45pm (English) Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog) Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog) Sunday: 6:45am (English) Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English) | | | |
| Immanuel United Methodist Church Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral) Worship Service: 9:00am Children's Sunday School: 9:00am Choir Practice: 8:00am Singspiration: 8:30am Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158 | | | |
| Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation) Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal 8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog) 9:15am-Sunday School Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group 8:00pm-Prayer Meeting Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church) Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage) (Korean Congregation) Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm Wednesday evening service: 8pm Daily morning prayer: 5am | | | |
| Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am, Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm, Wednesday: 7:30-9pm | | | |
| Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan Sunday School: 9:20am Sunday Adult: 11am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm | | | |
| Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433) | | | |
| Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan English Worship Service: 9-10:30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm | | | |
| Missions Connection Ministry Every Sunday Celebrations: 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog) Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm | | | |
| Northern Marianas Christian Church Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisú Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided) Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisú FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620 | | | |
| Marianas Bible Fellowship Center Sunday School: 9-9:30am | | | |
| Divine Worship: 9:30-11am Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm | | | |
| Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch) Sunday worship 8:30am Sunday evening 7:00pm Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel Telephone: 789-7566 | | | |
| Saipan Christian Church Sunday: 7:30am-10am Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting) Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups) | | | |
| Saipan Church of Christ Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 10-11am Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm Thursday Bible Study: 7pm | | | |
| Saipan Community Church (Sunday Services) Palau Service: 7:30am-9am English Service: 10am-11:30am Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm | | | |
| Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan (Saturday Church Services) Sabbath School Program: 9-10am Lesson Study: 10-10:40am Divine Service: 11-12pm Visitation: 3-4pm Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm Sundown Worship: 6-7pm | | | |
| First Baptist Church (Formerly Saipan Baptist Church) Afetna St., San Antonio Sunday 9am Sunday school 10am Regular worship 6pm worship Wednesday 7pm worship Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. | | | |
| Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center Phone 234-0209 New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches. Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi | | | |
| Service Times Sunday 10:00am Worship Service Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service Saturday 10:00am Evangelism | | | |
| Upper Room International Ministries Sunday 5:30am-6:30am Morning prayer 7am-9am English service 7am-9am Sunday school 10am-12noon English service, Koblerville Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan | | | |
| Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship: 10:30am Sunday PM Worship: 7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S | | | |

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Business

G-20 faces urgent task of averting trade war

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Leaders of the world's 20 biggest economies faced the urgent task at their summit Friday of resolving a U.S.-China currency dispute that has raised the specter of a global trade war.

But a draft of the joint statement to be issued at the end of the Group of 20 summit—obtained by The Associated Press—indicates that huge differences remain on how to deal with U.S. accusations that China deliberately undervalues its currency to gain a trade advantage. Similar accusations are being made against the United States.

After overnight negotiations by aides that lasted until day-break, President Barack Obama, China's Hu Jintao and the other 18 leaders filed somberly into closed-door talks being held in a conference center in Seoul.

The dispute over whether China and the United States are manipulating their currencies is threatening to resurrect destructive protectionist policies like those that worsened the Great Depression in the 1930s. The biggest fear is that trade barriers will send the global economy back into recession. A law the

United States passed in 1930 that raised tariffs on imports is widely thought to have deepened the Great Depression by stifling trade.

The dim prospect for a substantive agreement “is very dangerous for the world economy,” said Richard Portes, president of the Center for Economic Policy Research in London.

Hopes that the G-20, which includes wealthy nations like Germany and the U.S. and rising giants like China, could be a forum to forge a lasting global economic recovery have taken a knock. After three days of negotiations, the G-20 countries have been unable to reach a consensus on some of the wording in their final statement.

Amid the final talks, a senior Obama administration official sought to counter perceptions of discord. The official told reporters that the leaders of the major economies were poised to embrace a “framework of cooperation” for growth that finance ministers would followup on to give more traction. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the results of the leaders' meetings had not been publicly announced.

Nissan recalling more than 600,000 vehicles

DETROIT (AP)—Nissan Motor Co. is recalling more than 600,000 vehicles in North and South America and Africa due to steering or battery cable problems.

The Japanese automaker said Thursday that the steering recall affects 303,000 Frontier pickup trucks and 283,000 Xterra sport utility vehicles in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and other Latin American countries.

Nissan said a corrosion problem with the lower steering column joint and shaft can limit steering movement, making the vehicles difficult to steer. In some cases the corrosion can cause the joint to crack.

Nissan also is recalling 18,500 Sentra sedans because of a battery cable terminal connector problem that can make the cars difficult to start or stall at low speeds.

The company says no injuries or accidents have been reported because of either issue.

The Frontiers covered by the recall are from the 2002 through 2004 model years and were made from July 9, 2001, to Oct. 20, 2004, in Smyrna, Tenn., for the North American market, Nissan said in a statement. Frontiers made from Nov. 30, 2001, to June 26, 2008, in Curitiba, Brazil, for South and Central American markets also

are in the recall.

The 2002-2004 North American Xterras in the recall were made from July 9, 2001, to Jan. 6, 2005, also at the Smyrna plant. Xterras made from Feb. 17, 2003, to June 13, 2008, in Curitiba, Brazil, for South and Central American markets also are affected.

Nissan also said it will replace the positive battery cable terminal on affected Sentras. The vehicles were built at the Aguascalientes, Mexico, plant from May 22, 2010 to July 8, 2010.

The automaker said it will notify owners in early December when parts are available, and dealers will fix the problem at no cost to the owners.

Nissan said the steering problem was discovered from cases in Brazil and Canada, and there have been no field reports in the U.S.

“The isolated field reports from Brazil and Canada are likely related to some unique environmental conditions not commonly present in other areas, combined with a greater percentage of off-pavement usage,” Nissan spokesman Colin Price said in an e-mail. “Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, we have decided that field action is appropriate in all the potentially affected markets.”

Nation

Travelers disembark 'nightmare' cruise amid cheers

SAN DIEGO (AP)—They can call it a nightmare. A cruise from hell. Even a Spamcation.

Whatever they label it, the grueling three-day journey of the crippled Carnival Splendor is over, and the nearly 4,500 passengers and crew members can forget about the backed-up toilets, darkened, stuffy cabins and bad food.

"I love being back on land," said passenger Ken King, 42, of Los Angeles.

As the ship docked on Thursday, people who had gathered on the decks and about 100

waiting onshore cheered loudly. Along the harbor, tourists, joggers and fishermen stopped to snap photos.

Passengers snapped up \$20 T-shirts being sold on land with the phrase: "I survived the 2010 Carnival cruise Spamcation."

An engine fire aboard the 952-foot cruise liner on Monday morning knocked out power early in its seven-day trip to the Mexican Riviera, setting the ship adrift about 200 miles south of San Diego and 44 miles off the coast of Mexico.

No one was hurt, but pas-

sengers said they were jolted awake by the fire. Few of them panicked.

Smoke filled hallways toward the back of the ship, and a smoky odor reached the front cabins. Carnival said a crankcase split on one of the ship's six diesel engines, causing the fire. "It felt like an earthquake and sounded like a jackhammer," said Amber Haslerud, 27, of Chula Vista.

The captain immediately announced that there would be no need to abandon ship, said Amy Watts, 25, of Seattle, Wash. "You

think about the Titanic," she said.

The fire left the ship without air conditioning, hot water or hot food. The casino was closed and, for a time, the bars. The swimming pool was off-limits because there was no way to pump chlorine.

Navy helicopters flew in Spam, Pop Tarts and canned crab meat and other goods.

Passengers said they had to climb nine flights of stairs to get to the cafeteria only to meet long lines that stretched on for hours. By the time those at the back of the line got to the food,

they were left with tomatoes and lettuce, Haslerud said.

Some passengers carried food to those who used walkers and canes and couldn't climb stairs to reach the food lines.

"We have not had a hot cup of coffee in four days," said passenger Fahizah Alim, 26, of Sacramento, who ate at night by flashlight. "This was my first cruise and it was no luxury, no fun."

Passengers ended up getting by on a diet with lots of bread, vegetables and, sometimes, sandwich meat.

"If you could see the things

they put on sandwiches, seriously," said Peg Fisher of Las Vegas, who was on her first cruise with her husband. "This could be the only cruise ever where people lost weight instead of gaining weight."

For her, getting by without working toilets on the first day was the biggest challenge. After 15 hours, she couldn't wait any longer and hoped for the best as she flushed her cabin toilet.

"I ran out in the halls, 'The toilets flush!' People were like, 'Are you kidding?' They went running into their cabins," she said.



Joshua Vest, of Fullerton, Calif., is hugged by his mother, Donna Baldwin, left, and Deanne Miller after he exited the Carnival Splendor cruise ship, Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010, in San Diego.

DNA test casts doubt on executed Texas man's guilt

DALLAS (AP)—A DNA test on a single hair has cast doubt on the guilt of a Texas man who was put to death 10 years ago for a liquor-store murder—an execution that went forward after then-Gov. George W. Bush's staff failed to tell him the condemned man was asking for genetic analysis of the strand.

The hair had been the only piece of physical evidence linking Claude Jones to the crime scene. But the recently completed DNA analysis found it did not belong to Jones and instead may have come from the murder victim.

Barry Scheck, co-founder of the Innocence Project, a New York legal center that uses DNA to exonerate inmates and worked on Jones' case, acknowledged that the hair doesn't prove an innocent man was put to death. But he said the findings mean the evidence was insufficient under Texas law to

convict Jones.

Jones, a career criminal who steadfastly denied killing the liquor store owner, was executed by injection on Dec. 7, 2000, in the closing weeks of Bush's term as governor and in middle of the turbulent recount dispute in Florida that ended with Bush



Jones

elected president. As the execution drew near, Jones was pressing the governor's office for permission to do a DNA test on the hair. But the briefing papers Bush was given by his staff didn't include the request for the testing, and Bush denied a reprieve, according to state documents obtained by the Innocence Project.

Scheck said he believes "to a moral certainty" that Bush would have granted a 30-day reprieve had he known Jones was seeking DNA testing.

"It is absolutely outrageous that no one told him that Claude Jones was asking for a DNA test," Scheck said. "If you can't

rely on the governor's staff to inform him, something is really wrong with the system."

Bush had previously shown a willingness to test DNA evidence that could prove guilt or innocence in death penalty cases. Earlier in 2000, he had granted a reprieve to a death row inmate so that Scheck and other attorneys could have evidence tested. The test confirmed the man's guilt and he was executed.

A spokesman for Bush, who is on a book tour, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The other primary evidence against Jones came from one of two alleged accomplices: Timothy Jordan, who did not enter the liquor store but was believed to have planned the robbery and provided the gun. Jordan testified that Jones told him he was the triggerman. However, under Texas law, accomplice testimony isn't enough to convict someone and must be supported by other evidence. That other evidence was the hair.

Action, not talk: Deficit panel pushes Dems, GOP

WASHINGTON (AP)—The leaders of the deficit commission are baldly calling out the budget myths of both political parties, challenging lawmakers to engage in the "adult conversation" they say they want.

Their plan—mixing painful cuts to Social Security and Medicare with big tax increases—has no chance of enactment as written, certainly not as a whole. But the commission's high profile will make it harder for Republicans and Democrats to simply keep reciting their tax and spending talking points without acknowledging the real sacrifices that progress against government deficits would demand.

It's time for both conservatives and liberals to "put up or shut up," says Jon Cowan, head of the centrist-Democratic group Third Way, which praised the bold new proposals and urged

politicians to show courage. Republicans failed to produce their

often-promised deficit reductions when they controlled the government, Cowan said, and Democrats refuse to acknowledge that entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare must be trimmed.

Already, some top elected officials—House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, for one—have declared Wednesday's proposals by President Barack Obama's bipartisan commission unacceptable. Others still say deficits can be reduced in relatively easy ways, a notion that few mainstream economists accept.

There's no need to trim Social Security, Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., a tea party favorite, said Sunday on NBC's "Meet The Press." "If we can just cut the administrative waste," he said, "we can cut hundreds of billions of dollars a year at the federal level."

Well, no.

As amply demonstrated by the panel's co-chairmen—for-

mer Clinton White House chief of staff Erskine Bowles and retired Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo.—taming the deficit requires real pain all around. One person's government "waste" is another's essential program.

The co-chairmen's ideas, which they agree are simply a starting point, include calls to raise the Social Security retirement age and reduce scheduled benefit increases, whack the Pentagon budget, cut farm subsidies and increase the federal tax on gasoline by 15 cents a gallon.

The most vocal critics of the plan, which would cut spending by \$3 for every \$1 raised through higher taxes, are Democrats. Many will strongly oppose the bid to slowly raise the Social Security retirement age to 69. Republicans, especially three commission members appointed by incoming House Speaker John Boehner, are likely to balk at tax increases



ACROSS THE NATION

Bad 'Alibi': Idaho burglary suspect found at bar

LEWISTON, Idaho (AP)—Police said it didn't take them long to locate an Idaho man suspected in the robbery of a Cedars Inn—he was next door at The Alibi bar. Lewiston police said 40-year-old Donald Mosley Jr. was arrested less than 15 minutes after he walked into the hotel and demanded cash from the desk clerk late Wednesday. Police found Mosley at The Alibi, a bar located next to the hotel. Mosley was booked into the Nez Perce County Jail early Thursday and faces possible felony robbery charges. The Lewiston Tribune reports this is the second time Mosley has been arrested in recent weeks. In late October, police say he called in a fake fire report from a pay phone after he was declined a cup of coffee at a Lewiston fire station. It was unclear if Mosley had hired an attorney Thursday, when various state and county offices were closed in observance of Veterans Day.

Prosecutor: Heroin mill found near Times Square

NEW YORK (AP)—A newly renovated, nearly \$4,000-a-month apartment two blocks from Times Square was being used as a major heroin-packaging mill, processing millions of dollars' worth of the drug for sale, authorities said Thursday. Investigators who raided the

West 43rd Street apartment Wednesday found 28 pounds of heroin, along with 250,000 small envelopes and workers busily packing the drug for sale, said the office of city Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget G. Brennan, the Drug Enforcement Administration and other agencies. The drugs are worth about \$6.5 million, they said. "If our investigators were surprised by the location, you can only imagine the shock of neighbors, commuters and theatergoers," Brennan said in a release.

Standoff on Bay Bridge briefly halts traffic

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A police standoff with an armed man who reported having explosives in his vehicle briefly halted traffic on Northern California's busiest bridge during Thursday's morning commute. Craig Carlos-Valentino, described by authorities as mentally unstable, called 911 around 7 a.m. after pulling over on the upper deck of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and threatened to blow it up, California Highway Patrol investigators said. Authorities halted all westbound traffic on the upper deck as officers negotiated with the man, who could be seen standing outside his SUV talking on a cell phone. His 16-year-old daughter managed to escape from the vehicle during the hourlong standoff.

Asia

Peace Prize winners meet in Japan to abolish nukes



From left to right, former IAEA Director General Mohamed Elbaradei, U.S. Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams, Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama and former South African President Frederik Willem de Klerk applaud after a speech made by a survivor of Hiroshima nuclear bombing at the 11th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Hiroshima, western Japan, Friday, Nov. 12, 2010.

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AP)—The Dalai Lama and other Nobel Peace laureates from the last four decades gathered Friday to support the end of nuclear weapons at a hotel a few miles (kilometers) from ground zero of the world's first atomic bomb attack.

The award winners also were focused on the plight of those who couldn't attend the annual World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates—including this year's winner, jailed Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo, and Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's

detained pro-democracy activist who won in 1991.

"Now here, Liu Xiaobao, you see, failed to come here. It is very sad," the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan spiritual leader who won in 1989, told The Associated Press.

The annual meeting brings past award recipients together to call attention to their achievements and work, as well as push the prize's overall message of human rights and nonviolence.

At the opening ceremony Friday morning, laureates

were given necklaces made of paper cranes—symbols of peace in Japan—by local schoolchildren. They also heard the story of a "hibakusha" or survivor of the Aug. 6, 1945 attack, who described his journey home through the carnage on that day.

"I hate atomic bombs, but I know we cannot erase hatred by hating others. Hatred has to be overcome," said Akihiro Takahashi, who was a boy in Hiroshima when the Americans dropped the bomb.

Indonesian volcano spews less ash, still dangerous

MOUNT MERAPI, Indonesia (AP)—Volcanic ash that has poured from an Indonesian volcano since its deadly eruption last week slowed Friday, though experts warned that Mount Merapi remains dangerous.

The notoriously unpredictable volcano in the heart of Java island roared back to life two weeks ago,

killing more than 190 people in a series of eruptions.

Since then, ash has continuously shot out of the crater, occasionally canceling international flights into and out of Jakarta, hundreds of miles (kilometers) to the volcano's west. After the output slowed overnight, an advisory from the

Volcanic Ash Advisory Center in Darwin, Australia, on Friday showed the ash patch was well clear of the capital. The airport in Yogyakarta, at the foot of the mountain, however, remained closed for the eighth day.

Officials warned residents that less ash does not mean the volcano is finished.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bomb rocks Pakistan's largest city killing 15

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—Militants attacked a police compound in the heart of Pakistan's largest city on Thursday with a hail of gunfire and a massive car bomb, leveling the building and killing at least 15 people, authorities and witnesses said. The gang of around six gunmen managed to penetrate a high-security area of Karachi that is home to the U.S. Consulate, two luxury hotels and the offices of regional leaders. While no stranger to extremist violence, Karachi has not witnessed this kind of organized assault in recent years. It was the first major attack against a government target outside the northwestern tribal regions for several months, showing the reach of Islamist militants seeking to overthrow the U.S.-allied

government despite efforts to crack down on them over the last three years.

Fire at nursing home in S Korea kills 10

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A fire tore through a nursing home in southeastern South Korea on Friday, killing 10 people and injuring 17 others, police said. All of the victims were women in their 70s or older who were sleeping when the fire broke out in the early morning on the first floor of a two-story building in the port city of Pohang, police officer Lee In-shik said. He said 17 people sustained minor injuries and were taken to nearby hospitals for medical treatment. The fire raged for about 30 minutes before firefighters put it out, he said. Police and fire officials were trying to determine its cause.

Audio recording reveals fraud in Afghan election

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Afghan election commission said Thursday that it had opened an investigation into allegations that a top government official pressured an election worker to rig the results of the parliamentary ballot in western Afghanistan. Meanwhile, NATO forces said they were looking into the shooting death of an Afghan policeman in the south, allegedly by a NATO soldier. The Afghan election commission said it had received an audio recording of a more than 20-minute telephone call purportedly between an election worker in Kabul and Ismail Khan, the Afghan minister of energy of water and the former powerful governor of Herat province in western Afghanistan.

World

Reputed Canadian mafia patriarch killed

MONTREAL (AP)—An 86-year-old alleged Mafia patriarch was gunned down as he sat gazing out of the solarium of his Montreal home, authorities said, the latest blow to a once-formidable Canadian criminal organization.

Nicolo Rizzuto was shot at least once at around 5:40 p.m. EST on Wednesday, according to police, and was taken to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced dead shortly after he arrived. The family and its associates have been targeted in a series of slayings that observers say is an attempt to end its hold on power. Nick Rizzuto Jr., Nicolo's grandson, was shot to death outside his Montreal home last Dec. 28.

Montreal police spokesman Raphael Bergeron told The Associated Press on Thursday that Rizzuto was shot by a lone gunman who was hiding in the woods outside Rizzuto's residence.

Mexico violence costs \$350K daily in natgas losses

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Threats and violence by drug gangs are preventing some government oil workers from reaching installations in northern Mexico and costing state-owned Petroleos Mexicanos about \$350,000 every day in lost production, a company official said Thursday.

The official said Pemex has shut down the equivalent of about 100 million cubic feet of natural gas production per day. He talked to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity, because company rules do not allow him to be quoted by name.

That amounts to about \$10.5 million per month, or about 2.3 percent of Mexico's \$450 million per month average in

monthly natural gas revenues.

The lost production is centered in the Burgos gas field near the east Texas border in an area where drug gangs have threatened and kidnapped Pemex workers at some of the company's installations.

The official said that earlier in the year, when the security problems were most acute, gas production was down twice as much—about 200 million cubic feet per day.

The problem came to a head in May, when five workers at a gas compression plant were abducted by armed men. The father of one of the victims has said the workers were warned to stay away, and the kidnapped men have not been heard from since.

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Off the sofa! UK gets tough on welfare

LONDON (AP)—Britain announced the most radical overhaul in decades Thursday to its once-generous welfare system, pledging harsh penalties for those who refuse jobs and community work service for the unemployed in return for benefit checks. Work and Pensions Secretary Iain Duncan Smith unveiled sharp changes to the country's cradle-to-grave social safety net, which was first introduced after World War II to better protect newborns, families, the jobless and the sick. Critics have long said the British system offered hefty benefits unavailable to other citizens across Europe, the U.S. and other major economies—encouraging some people to snub modest jobs in favor of an easy life on handouts.

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Mafia murders. Police said late Wednesday that they would be open to meeting with Vito Rizzuto about a series of attacks against his family.

The Rizzutos came to prominence in Montreal with a violent coup against the Cotroni family, their Calabrian rivals, in the 1970s. They had tentacles reaching into untold businesses considered legitimate, including bars, restaurants and construction companies.

The clan was brought to its knees in a massive 2006 police dragnet in which scores of alleged mobsters were arrested. It appears to have received its coup de grace over the last year with a series of slayings that crime analysts consider an attempt to end its hold on power.

Nick Rizzuto Jr., Vito's son and Nicolo's grandson and namesake, was shot to death outside his Montreal home last Dec. 28.

Some US rebuilding money finally headed to Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—The first portion of U.S. reconstruction money for Haiti is on its way more than seven months after it was promised to help the country rebuild from the Jan. 12 earthquake. The U.S. government will transfer \$120 million—about one-tenth of the total amount pledged—to the World Bank-run Haiti Reconstruction Fund in the next few days, U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said. "Having completed the process as outlined in the appropriation, we are now moving aggressively to commit that money to Haiti's reconstruction," Crowley said.

However, army troops are now helping Pemex provide increased security.

"This has allowed us to start partially recovering the production we had stopped for this reason," Pemex exploration and production division chief Carlos Morales told local media.

Dozens of families have fled the drug violence in one Tamaulipas town, Ciudad Mier, and taken refuge at a Lion's Club in the nearby city of Miguel Aleman.

WORLD BRIEFS

Sunni walkout mars Iraq parliament session

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's president gave Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki the nod to form the next government Thursday after an eight-month deadlock, keeping him in his post despite a dramatic Sunni walkout from parliament that demonstrated the deep distrust between the two sides. The walkout and the fact that it came just one day after an accord was forged to work together dealt a blow to hopes for a unified government—especially one that ensures continued Shiite domination while giving Sunnis a role far short of the greater political power they seek. Sunni support is crucial. The Americans had been pushing for them to have a significant role, fearing that otherwise, disillusioned Sunnis could turn to the insurgency, fueling new violence as the last of U.S. troops prepare to leave by the end of next year.

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Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

Saturday, November 13, 2010

DPH to participate at Lions Club medical mission today

» Donations sought for old and used eyeglasses

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health will have information booths about two of their programs during the Lions Club International District 204 Medical Mission today.

The medical mission will be held from 7am to 11am at the Civic Center Basketball Court in Susupe.

Region secretary Paul Madriaga said DPH will set up the New Born Screening Program and the Early Childhood Comprehensive System program.

For the New Born Screening Program, there will be a booth and a mobile clinic for the hearing screening test to be conducted by Guam Lions and other clinicians.

On the other hand, the Early Childhood Comprehensive System program will promote healthy living and early literacy among children from birth to five years old.

Madriaga said they hope to have DPH personnel administer the flu vaccine to those who want to avail of it during the medical mission.

Open to everyone, the Lions Club Medical Mission will focus on vision screening, hearing testing, blood pressure, and blood sugar testing.

According to Madriaga, the nursing programs of Northern Marianas College and Loyola College will be in charge of the blood pressure and blood sugar testing.

The Lions Club International District 204 is composed of Regions 1 and 2. Region 1 consists of the Guam Lions



In this file photo, members of the Saipan Lions Club pose for a group photo after the Lions Club District Induction at the Marriott Hotel in Guam in September.

Clubs while Region 2 is made up of the Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club, Saipan Marianas Lions Club, and the Saipan Unity Lions Club.

Upon arrival of the local Lions' Guam counterparts, Madriaga said they will hold a motorcade from the airport down to Middle Road, pass through Garapan on Beach Road, then proceed to the Civic Center.

Madriaga said their organization is also asking for donations of old and used eyeglasses as part of their Lions Recycle for Sight.

A collection box for donations of old and used eyeglasses will be set up at the basketball court, he said.

To get involved with the Lions Clubs, contact Jess Delos Santos of Saipan Fil-Am Lions Club at 287-8880; Tony Soriano of Saipan Marianas Lions Club at 287-7917; or Ladyvir Canape of Saipan Unity Lions Club at 483-2118.

OFW remittances '4th largest in the world'—WB

By MICHELLE REMO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The Philippines remained one of the world's biggest recipients of remittances in 2010 and is seen to witness a further surge in money from Filipino migrant workers in the next two years, according to the latest "Migration and Remittances Factbook" by the World Bank.

Based on the country rankings shown in the report, remittances to the Philippines were the fourth-biggest worldwide.

Remittances to the Philippines are estimated to reach \$21.3 billion for the entire 2010, registering a 23-percent growth from the \$17.3 billion recorded last year.

Official and latest data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed that in January to August, remittances reached \$12.2 billion. The World Bank estimates, however, that some \$9.1 billion more remittances were sent and will be sent to the Philippines from September to December this year.

The estimated remittances to the Philippines follow the estimates for India (\$55 billion), China (\$51 billion), and Mexico (\$22.6 billion), which were the Top 3 biggest recipients of remittances.

Landing on the fifth place, behind the Philippines, is France, remittances to which are estimated to reach \$15.9 billion.

Total remittances to all developing countries are estimated to reach \$325 billion this year, up by 6 percent from last year's \$307 billion and rebound-

ing from the contraction registered in 2009 as a result of the global crisis.

Remittances to the Philippines significantly help boost growth of the domestic economy, as these largely fuel household consumption. Estimates by the World Bank said remittances to the country were equivalent to about 12 percent of its gross domestic product.

Economic managers admitted that remittances largely helped the country escape recession last year, when the latest global turmoil was said to have peaked. The Philippines grew by 1.1 percent last year, performing better than most industrialized countries, which contracted.

Remittances continued to grow this year due to higher demand for Filipino workers in more countries and in more sectors.

"The diversified destination of Filipino migrants contributed to steady growth in 2010 despite the crisis," the World Bank said.

The developmental institution has projected that remittances to the Philippines would grow further next year, consistent with the likely rise in overall remittances to developing countries.

According to World Bank, remittances to developing countries may surge further by 6.2 percent in 2011 and by 8.1 percent in 2012.

However, the bank pointed out risks to the projection, including the still high unemployment rate in the United States and some other countries that accounted for the biggest migrant workers. Should their employment situation worsen, remittances to developing countries might be adversely affected, the bank said.

The life of a seamstress: A stitch here, a stitch there

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Creating custom-made clothes and outfits is a profoundly personal experience. Not only does a tailor or dressmaker take a client's measurements, he or she must also know the client well by adapting to their clothing requirements to make the clothes fit perfectly and have the clients looking their best.

Saipan Tailor Shop Fashion & Uniform Tailors has been providing its customers with that personal touch on their tailoring desires and needs for any occasion, from school uniforms and casual attire to bridalwear.

Opened in August 2004, the humble tailor shop along Hagoi Road in Chalan Kanoa is owned by a Japanese entrepreneur who owns most of the company shares and is managed by Filipino head seamstress Celia Tabling.

"I started making clothes back in the Philippines, when I was just 17 years old," said Tabling one busy afternoon at the shop. She was working hard at creating tiny Japanese bags for a customer.

Tabing told *Saipan Tribune* that her dream was to become a nurse, just like her sibling who is now a health care provider in Los Angeles. But with meager earnings, her parents could not afford to send her to a nursing school at that time.

"That's how I got into dressmaking and tailoring. Incidentally, I have a sibling who is an instructor at a fashion school so we worked hand in hand," said Tabling, adding that the same sibling was instrumental in bringing her to Saipan.

Tabing arrived on this island paradise in the Pacific in 1994 and has since worked as a seamstress in various tailor shops on Saipan.

Tabing said that she has learned to

love her vocation, devoting herself to making stylish clothing of outstanding quality and with attention to detail using fabrics and textiles from Hawaii, Philippines, and Korea.

"You should learn to love and enjoy what you do so you don't get bored and you deliver highly satisfactory results," said Tabling.

However, Tabling said her experience was not a bed of roses all throughout her career. At the last tailoring shop where she worked, Tabling felt she was

created practically everything, including uniforms, bridal gowns, burial clothes, various costumes, and clothes for every occasion. Her creations, she said, are made to her customers' designs or design requests and are made to measure.

Tabing said she even clothed shoes for a popular resort on island and made a fish stuffed toy for Tasi Tours. She said the fish toy measured 45 x 42 inches and required four futon beds as filler.

Her income as a seamstress enabled Tabling to provide for her four sons who have all finished college. Her husband Rolando is in charge of looking after them, she said.

Although she misses home and would want to be with her family, Tabling said she will bring them here if given the chance so they can all be together again.

Outside work, Tabling said she relaxes by spending her time ballroom dancing or taking any of the free classes offered by the Philippine Consulate Office and the Philippine Overseas Labor Office at Marianas Business Plaza.

Tabing expressed her appreciation for all her customers who continue to support her and give business to their shop.

"My customers and I reciprocate love and appreciation. That's why I'm grateful that they stand by us through the years and I hope they continue to seek our services in the coming years," she said.

Tabing urged all those who haven't tried Saipan Tailor Shop to visit them and sample their tailoring services.

"Try us and I assure them that they will keep coming back because at our shop, satisfaction is guaranteed," she said.

Saipan Tailor Shop is located along Hagoi Road across Mount Carmel School in Chalan Kanoa. The shop is open from Monday to Saturday, 8am to 7pm. For information, call 234-0630.



CLARISSA DAVID

Head seamstress Celia Tabling stands in front of the Saipan Tailor Shop Fashion & Uniform Tailors along Hagoi Road in Chalan Kanoa.

not appreciated for the work she did.

This prompted Tabling to transfer to Saipan Tailor Shop six years ago, bringing with her some of the customers who have relied on her service over time.

During the first three years of the shop, Tabling recounted how the business boomed. She said they've managed the tailoring needs of Tasi Tours and Duty Free Shoppers. Tabling said they used to handle the uniforms and alterations for Mount Carmel School as well.

As a seamstress, Tabling said she has

Philippine lawmakers to push family planning bill

BY OLIVER TEVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A group of Philippine lawmakers said Thursday it will try to pass a family planning bill with backing from the country's new president

despite strong opposition from the Roman Catholic Church.

Members of the House of Representatives advocating family planning told reporters they will begin public hearings in two weeks on six versions of a proposed reproductive health

law. They are aiming for a single comprehensive bill that will include family planning, improved maternal and child care, prevention of unsafe abortions, safeguarding of women's rights and poverty reduction.

Rep. Edcel Lagman, one of

the bill's main proponents, said they will work to pass the measure before Congress adjourns next June.

He said opposition to the bill comes mainly from the church hierarchy, not from ordinary citizens in the predominantly Catholic nation.

Lagman said he is confident President Benigno Aquino III—who recently stirred debate over family planning by expressing support for the right to contraceptives—will back the bill.

Rep. Jose Maria Zubiri said the country's "overrapid and unsustainable population growth ... has already become a national security issue."

"Many of our problems in the Philippines stem from the fact that too many Filipinos make too many children that they cannot afford to take care of," he said. "The population growth of the last 30 years was faster than the economic growth that could support it."

The country's population, estimated at 94 million, is about double what it was 30 years ago. About 10 percent of Filipinos work abroad "not because they want to but because they have to," he added.

Lagman said about 100 of the 278 House members are co-authors of the various versions of the proposed law. He is confident the final version will get

majority support when it is put to a vote.

Aquino's predecessor, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, opposed the bill during her nine-year administration.

Aquino, who took office four months ago, has met leaders of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines and explained to them that he supports responsible parenthood and does not back any particular birth control method.

Catholic church leaders oppose artificial contraceptives and say sex education, which is included in the proposals, is a parental responsibility.

Rep. Luz Ilagan of the wom-

en's party Gabriela said the proposed law will limit unsafe abortions by reducing unwanted pregnancies caused by a lack of knowledge of family planning methods.

An estimated 560,000 women in the Philippines in 2008 sought abortions involving crude and painful methods, according to a report released in August by the New York-based Center for Reproductive Rights.

About 90,000 women suffer from abortion complications and an estimated 1,000 die each year, the report said, adding that complications are among the top 10 reasons women seek hospital care.



COURTESY CALL

In this photo released by the Philippines' Malacanang Palace, Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, left, gestures as he receives former U.S. President Bill Clinton during his courtesy call Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010, at the Malacanang palace in Manila, Philippines. Clinton, who was on a short visit to the country in spite of travel warnings imposed by some foreign countries in the region due to terrorist threats, was the guest speaker at a forum.

RP working on nurses' entry to Japan easier

By CHRISTINE O. AVENDAÑO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

YOKOHAMA, Japan—Soon, Filipinos planning to work here as nurses and caregivers might just find entering this country a walk in the park.

Philippine Charge d'Affaires Belen Anota Thursday said efforts were ongoing between the Philippines and Japan to ensure that Filipino nurses and caregivers would be able to hurdle

tough entry exams.

300,000 Filipinos in Japan

This was brought about by the desire of both Manila and Tokyo to bring in more highly skilled workers in this country where 300,000 Filipinos are now living and working, according to Anota.

Noting that before, mostly entertainers comprised the Filipino workforce here, now there are more teachers in universi-

ties, engineers and architects.

"Now there are serious talks between the two countries on how to ensure Filipino nurses and caregivers will be able to pass their exams," Anota said.

Just recently Japan sent officials to talk with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority for this

purpose, she said.

Bilateral talks

Anota said this was a result of bilateral talks between President Benigno Aquino III and Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit in Vietnam last month.

Anota said that the two leaders talked about how to improve working and living conditions of Filipinos based here.

OFW remains returned to RP 10 months after Saudi death

By JOEY A. GABIETA
INQUIRER VISAYAS

TACLOBAN CITY, Philippines—It took nearly 10 months for Philippine government officials to bring home the body of a Filipina overseas worker who allegedly committed suicide in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, because of "paper work."

The remains of Sarah Cuevas, 38, arrived on Wednesday nearly 10 months after her reported death by suicide in Riyadh.

Alberto Peñaflor, administrative officer of the Overseas Welfare Workers Administration (Owwa) in Eastern Visayas, said it took that long to bring home the remains of Cuevas, a native of Dagami, Leyte, because the papers needed to ship her body out of Saudi Arabia weren't immediately processed.

"We have to gather necessary documents before we're able to retrieve her remains," Peñaflor said Thursday.

The papers, he said, were in a hospital in Riyadh.

Cuevas allegedly committed suicide on February 16 by hanging herself inside the guest room of the residence of her employer of more than four years. She left the country in 2006 to work as a maid.

Her remains arrived at Daniel Z. Romualdez (DZR) Airport, Tacloban, at 7 a.m. Wednesday, a day after arriving in Manila from Saudi Arabia.

Cuevas left behind four children, with her eldest son suffering from cerebral palsy.

But what was heartbreaking for the family was that the mother of Cuevas, Fe Pacaanas, who also worked as a maid in Riyadh, suffered a stroke on September 1.

PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

Philippine volcano spews ash but no eruption seen

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—An explosion of ash and smoke from the rumbling Bulusan volcano in the central Philippines has jolted residents awake but scientists say an eruption is not imminent. One of the country's 23 active volcanoes, Bulusan came back to life last weekend after emitting lava three years ago. The state institute of volcanology says its analysis of the ashfall, which has blanketed about six municipalities, showed it contains no magma and there is no danger of eruption. The latest blast early Friday shot up ash and steam some 1,600 feet (500 meters) above the 5,150-foot (1,560-meter) summit. Authorities have distributed face masks, opened up evacuation centers and warned aircraft to avoid flying near the volcano.

Nicolas to chair body on Filipinos overseas

MANILA, Philippines—President Benigno Aquino has appointed former National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretary Imelda Nicolas as the new chair of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Abigail Valte announced over state-run dzRB on Saturday. Nicolas is the latest member of the "Hyatt 10"—the 10-member group of the Arroyo Cabinet who announced their resignation in a press conference at the Hyatt hotel in 2005 amid serious allegations of election fraud against the former President—to join the Aquino administration. Other members of the Hyatt 10 already in the Cabinet are Budget Secretary Florencio Abad, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, Social Welfare and Development Secretary Corazon Soliman and Presidential

Adviser on the Peace Process Teresita Quintos-Deles. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

8 Filipino seafarers back to same ship

MANILA, Philippines—All eight Filipino seafarers who used to man MV Beluga Fortune will continue working in the cargo vessel whose crew repelled a pirate attack in the Indian Ocean last month, according to the Department of Foreign Affairs. The DFA-Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs said it learned from a local manning agency that the Filipinos were safe and had said that they hoped to continue working on-board. "The crew members added that they will come home to the Philippines in time for the Christmas holidays," the DFA said in a statement. On October 24, Somali pirates boarded the German-owned vessel while it

was sailing in the Indian Ocean en route to Richards Bay, South Africa. MV Beluga Fortune had 16 crew members, eight of them Filipinos. (*Philippine Daily Inquirer*)

Philippines on alert for missing Chinese sailors

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine coast guard is ready to assist in the search for a missing Panamanian cargo vessel with 25 Chinese crew members on board. Commander Armand Balilo, a coast guard spokesman, says the Chinese Embassy reported the Nasco Diamond and its crew have been missing since Thursday morning near the Philippines' northernmost province of Batanes. Balilo says Philippine coast guard vessels and a plane have been put on standby to join rescue operations by Chinese authorities. He says no other details were available.

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Margarito makes fun of Pacquiao trainer in video

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP SPORTS WRITER

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Antonio Margarito has repeatedly said he is sorry for a hand-wrapping scandal that almost ended his boxing career. Now his camp has had to apologize again, for something else only days before getting into the ring against Manny Pacquiao.

A video interview posted by Elie Seckbach of FanHouse recently raced across the Internet, in which Margarito and Brandon Rios—both of whom are trained by Robert Garcia—appear to mock the Parkinson's disease of Pacquiao trainer Freddie Roach.

Before even talking about the junior middleweight title bout during a news conference Wednesday at Cowboys Stadium, Garcia first apologized for the video.

"This was nothing to do with the disease that Freddie Roach has. We know it's something that we don't wish nobody," Garcia said Wednesday. "It's something personal, something between Team Pacquiao and Team Margarito. I just wanted to make that clear."

When Roach was at the podium a few minutes later, he didn't acknowledge what Garcia said or even refer to the video. After the formal program was completed, though, Roach said he wasn't buying Garcia's apology.

In the video, Margarito makes a twisted face and raises a shaking hand for the camera before it pans to Rios, who also makes faces and stutters while saying Pacquiao's name.

The video has since been edited to remove Rios and make it appear as though Margarito is doing a scared impression of Roach, who has routinely questioned Margarito's integrity following the hand-wrapping scandal nearly two years ago.

Garcia also takes part in the mockery by holding up a thick chunk of metal and telling Roach he'd better watch as Margarito's hands are wrapped so that it doesn't end up under the tape.

"They're so disrespectful to me and the hand pad issues. ... It's like a slap in the face, like 'we got caught with something, but we're still here fighting.' I think it shows his true character. I don't think they are a good group of people," Roach said. "I'm not going to bother Manny Pacquiao with that. Manny doesn't hate anybody and so forth, but I do hate those guys."

Pacquiao said he hadn't seen the video.

Roach does plan to make sure Margarito is being watched when his hands are wrapped before Saturday night's bout. That's not a joke.

"I will watch him. I asked the (Texas) commission to have a person from my camp in their training room from start to finish, and they can do the same with me," Roach said, adding that his request was approved. "I don't trust those guys. He'll do anything to win. He's done it before. He's a cheater."

The bout will be Pacquiao's second at Cowboys Stadium, where more than 50,000 fans are expected to attend along with an expected pay-per-view audience of 1 million or more.

In March at the \$1.2 billion showplace, Pacquiao dominated Joshua Clottey from the opening bell to retain his welterweight title with an unanimous decision.



Manny Pacquiao, left, and Antonio Margarito, right, pose with boxing promoter Bob Arum, center, during a news conference Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010, in Arlington, Texas. The boxers are scheduled to fight Saturday night at Cowboys Stadium for the WBC World Super Welterweight title.

Pacquiao has since been elected a congressman in his native Philippines, a job that initially seemed to be affecting his training for this fight. He even

missed a day of workouts.

"Everything is back to normal," Roach said, declaring Pacquiao ready for the fight. "It was never physical.

It was all mental. His mental focus wasn't there."

Margarito, the former welterweight champion, was approved to fight in

Two days before fight, Pacquiao goes for a ride

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP SPORTS COLUMNIST

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—The champ was running late, which was not surprising because the champ is always running late. More worrisome on this day was that Manny Pacquiao couldn't be found in the sprawling hotel suite that serves as ground zero for him and his entourage.

"I can't find him, I'm serious," said Michael Koncz, whose handles many of Pacquiao's affairs. "Someone is in the bathroom with the hair dryer going. But I'm not going in there."

Indeed, disturbing the champ is frowned upon, something the signs in Pacquiao's suite at the Gaylord Texan let all visitors know. There are various edicts plastered on the walls, including one declaring that a 9 p.m. curfew would be strictly enforced.

"By order of the champ," it says, making it de facto law in these parts of Texas.

Two days before he meets Antonio Margarito in boxing's biggest event of the year, Pacquiao is clearly in charge of not only his massive entourage but a sport that has fallen on hard times in recent years. He is expected to draw more than 50,000 fans Saturday night to Cowboys Stadium and could make \$20 million if he can convince enough other people to buy the fight on television.

To do that, he was supposed to appear Thursday at the stadium—where he already has as many wins this year as the Cowboys—to do a series of satellite interviews with major networks.

But first he had to be found.

Eventually the hair dryer stopped, and a few minutes later Pacquiao emerged. Immediately, members of his jumbo entourage jumped to attention and soon a lucky few crowded on

an elevator, heading toward a trio of waiting SUVs that would carry them all to the stadium for the final round of media interviews before the fight.

The champ got the middle seat in the first SUV. I got the one next to him. The idea was to pick his brain about moving up in weight one more time and going for yet another title to add to his already large pile of belts.

Except the champ didn't feel much like talking.

Head buried in his BlackBerry, he checked e-mail from back home, part of his duties as the newly elected congressman from the Sarangani Province of the Philippines. When the answers did come, they came haltingly, as if Pacquiao was saving up all his words for the final 30 minutes of interviews that were just ahead.

The bottom line was this: He believes Margarito has a style made for him, and hopes everyone can come to Lake Tahoe a few days after the fight for the concert he has planned there.

Oh, and Floyd Mayweather Jr. isn't on his radar.

"He needs me," Pacquiao said. "I don't need him."

On that point, Pacquiao is probably right. In a remarkable reverse of fortunes, Mayweather now faces possible jail time while the fighter he claimed couldn't touch him in ticket sales is selling more tickets than any fighter in recent history.

By now, Pacquiao was getting warmed up. He spoke of the responsibilities of being famous and how Mayweather doesn't understand them, and he spoke of the responsibilities of being a congressman and having the future of his people in his hands.

And then he started singing.

"Imagine there's no heaven," Pacquiao crooned, reprising his role on the

duet he did last week with comedian Will Ferrell on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" The video of the performance has nearly 800,000 hits so far on YouTube, and the singing is surprisingly good, especially if you weren't expecting much.

"I'm not a good singer, but I can sing," Pacquiao said. "It's like boxing. I'm not a good boxer, but I can box."

He may not be a boxer in the classical sense, but he's a fighter who comes along only once a generation, a fearsome puncher with both hands who operates with dizzying speed and from so many angles that he usually ends up overwhelming the other guy in the ring.

He'll be going for an unprecedented title in his eighth different weight class against Margarito, and the oddsmakers figure he will be successful. But it's always a risk against a bigger man and one punch can ruin a lot of carefully laid plans in boxing.

At the stadium, Pacquiao dutifully sits in front of a television camera for a live interview on ESPN's SportsCenter, and later tapes a piece for National Public Radio.

He says he's ready and, despite concerns about his training camp, will be the Pacman everyone knows even if he now has weightier responsibilities.

"There's pressure," Pacquiao said. "In every fight I have to train hard because the whole Filipino nation is on my shoulders."

On the ride back to the hotel, Pacquiao checks a few more e-mails, then falls asleep.

He wakes with a start as the SUV pulls up to a back entrance, and the entourage begins piling out.

"What time is it?" he asked.

Not to worry. When you're Manny Pacquiao, everything runs on Pacman time.

Texas after being denied a license in California and having another application in Nevada tabled.

Promoter Bob Arum again Wednesday applauded the decision by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and defended Margarito. Both Pacquiao and Margarito fight under Arum's Top Rank banner.

"When other people in boxing, some other commissions feasted on innuendoes, lies and smears, this commission read the record, read every scrap from the California hearing to the appeals," Arum said. "For 18 months (Margarito) has gone through hell, but he's taken it like a man, he's accepted it and believe me on Saturday night he will give you the fight of his life."

Margarito hasn't fought in the United States since January 2009, when a plaster-like substance was found in his hand wraps before a fight against Shane Mosley in Los Angeles.

Margarito's license along with that of his former trainer, Javier Capetillo, were revoked for at least one year by the California State Athletic Commission, a decision that was upheld by other states.

Margarito has repeatedly said he wasn't aware of the substance found in his hand wraps.

"I wrap guys every day," Roach said. "Believe me, if I put a rock in their hand, they would know it."

In his only fight since, Margarito won an unanimous decision over Roberto Garcia in Mexico in May.

While Garcia acknowledged that they were making fun of Roach in the video, he insisted that Rios didn't even know about the Parkinson's disease that affects Pacquiao's trainer. Garcia said the video was made about five weeks ago.

"He didn't even know Freddie had a disease," Garcia said. "He thought it was from 13 losses that Freddie Roach had when he was a professional boxer."

Roach said Margarito and Garcia have been nice to him in the past.

"But they stooped kind of low this time," Roach said. "They showed their true colors."

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Richard Gutierrez pleads not guilty in Taguig bar brawl

By **TINA SANTOS**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Actor and television host Richard Gutierrez on Thursday pleaded not guilty to charges filed against him by a disc jockey and a fashion consultant who claimed they were attacked by the popular show-business personality outside a bar in Taguig City five years ago.

Accompanied by their lawyer, Gutierrez and his co-accused, brother Eduardo “Rocky” Gutierrez Jr., appeared at the sala of Judge Maria Paz Yson of Taguig City’s Metropolitan Trial Court Branch 74 for their arraignment.

The Gutierrezes are facing charges for serious physical injuries based on the complaint filed by Arnel Cruz, a disc jockey, and Ramel de Vera, a fashion consultant. Cruz also filed a malicious mischief suit against the siblings

for allegedly damaging his car during the incident on Jan. 29, 2005.

The complainants, however, did not show up during the proceedings but were only represented by their counsel.

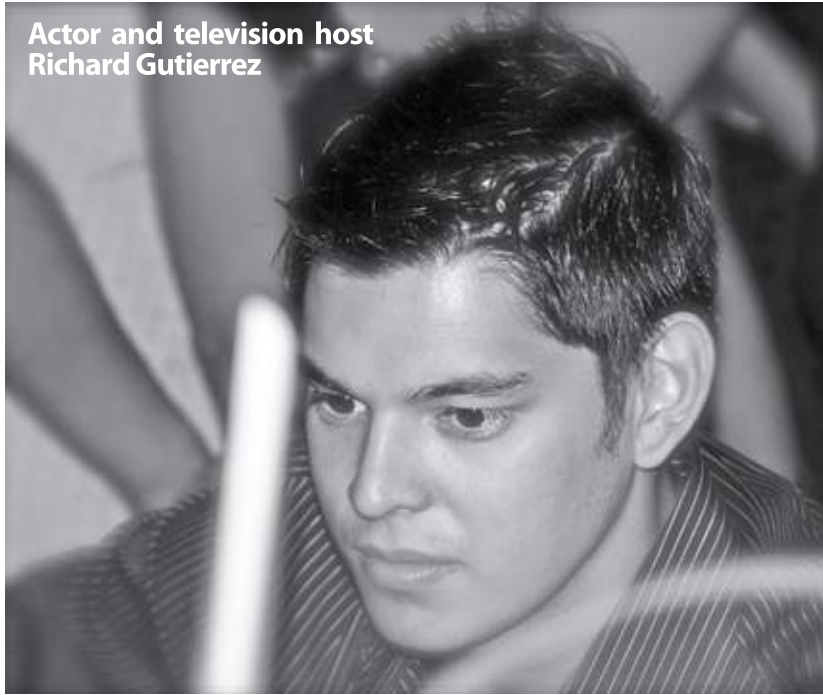
The judge, who encouraged both parties to try to enter into an amicable settlement, set a preliminary conference on January 31.

“Should you agree on a settlement, the complainants should be reasonable and honest in asking for compensation for the expenses you incurred,” she added.

The complainants’ lawyer, Catherine Bringas, said the prosecution of the case was “without prejudice to the parties’ amicable settlement.”

The actor looked irked upon seeing members of the media when he entered the court room. He then turned to his lawyer, Maria Lourdes Pangniban, and asked her if reporters

Actor and television host
Richard Gutierrez



were allowed in the room.

The Inquirer also tried to talk to Pangniban prior to the proceedings but was told “there was nothing newsworthy about it.”

The actor’s bodyguard even confronted the ABS-CBN news crew for taking footage of Gutierrez’s car.

In an interview on ABS-CBN in February 2005, Cruz said he, De Vera and a female companion, had just come from Bellissima, a bar at The Fort and were on their way home when Gutierrez’s group attacked them. Cruz and De Vera claimed they were hit in the face.

Gutierrez’s group was celebrating the birthday of Richard and his twin brother, Raymond, at the Embassy Supperclub nearby.

The club, notorious for brawls and scandals it attracted, was renamed Encore last year, with a new and “whole-some” entertainment concept.

Oyo-Kristine wedding date a secret

By **DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—I bumped into Oyo Boy Sotto and Desiree del Valle at the Christmas station ID shoot of TV5. They laughed off rumors that Oyo’s fiancée, Kristine Hermosa is so jealous of Desiree, that she went to the taping of “Midnight DJ” to confront Des.

“No truth to that at all,” Des clarified. “The three of us are friends.”

Oyo himself was surprised. “Ngayon ko lang narinig ang balitang yan,” he said, amused. “Ikakasal na kami ni Tin pero confidential pa ang date. Sana lubayan na kami ng intriga.”

Oyo wishes to kiss intrigues goodbye as he gets ready to kiss his bride.

Back on track

Korina Sanchez is back where she



Korina Sanchez is back on “TV Patrol.”

rightfully belongs. What are her sentiments and/or apprehensions about being back on “TV Patrol”?

“I’m back in news in an unexpectedly major way. I have hardly any apprehensions about it. It’s an assignment and we simply soldier on,” she says. “Certainly, to be back doing live daily TV is a bit nerve-bending. And that’s what I never missed during my year and a half leave. I don’t look forward to putting on make-up and dressing up every day again.”

“But thank God it’s now in an earlier time slot. And that’s what I’m heartened about—to be in the homes of our countrymen at dinnertime, telling them about what they want to and should know.

“It’s like being a part of everyone’s family. It’s such a privilege. I thank ABS-CBN for their trust and confidence in me, Noli (de Castro) and Ted (Failon) to get this job done.”

Good as new

Kuya Kim Atienza will be good as new after his surgery.

“I will have the hole in my heart removed,” he says. “It will be a big relief because it was the main cause of my stroke. I am grateful to the Lord for giving me a second lease on life. I definitely will not put it to waste. Marami pa akong misyon sa mundo.”

Kuya Kim is Twitterlandia’s “Mr. Encyclopedia” (kuyakim_atienza@twitter.com). Ask him anything under the sun and he will give you the answer. No tweet remains unanswered.

“After my stroke, Twitter served to sharpen my brain cells again. It kept my motor running.”

Smitten

Senior citizen rocker Joey “Pepe” Smith turned into a teenager when asked about his rumored girlfriend, GMA 7 actress Karen de los Reyes.

“I like her a lot,” he admits. “Di naman masama ang mag-admire ng beauty. There were fireworks the moment I met her. Pero nahihiya akong sabihing nanliligaw ako kasi baka ma-basted ako. Sa edad ko ba namang ito, ngayon

pa ako mabokya?”

Has he called it quits with his wife? “For seven years, I was faithful to her,” he says. “But she never trusted me. I told her I would never stop trying until I gain her trust. But, nasagad na ako. The final straw was when she hit me after I failed to mention in an interview that we’re married. Never ako nanakit ng babae. Ako pa nga ang battered husband.”

‘Crying lady’

Ruffa Gutierrez revealed that Miriam Quiambao was a “crying lady” while they were vacationing in Macau and Hong Kong last Halloween.

“She’s devastated that her American ex already has a new love. Wala siyang ginawa kundi umiyak during our trip. I guess she still hasn’t gotten over him. But knowing her, she will bounce back soon.” Hopefully, the next time Miriam cries it will be tears of joy.

Dating and...mating?

DJ Mo is all praises for Willie Revillame in “Willing Willie.” “I make it a point not to be late,” says Mo, who is one of the show’s segment hosts.

“Nakakahiya because he instills discipline in all of us,” adds Mo. “One of the dancers was 30 minutes late for her call time and she was sent home.”

Mo is also now more vocal about his special relationship with Rhian Ramos. “Just as the video showed we were really holding hands. Yes, we are dating.” And mating? I teased. He couldn’t stop blushing.

New co-host

It’s official! Starting Monday night on TV5, Willie Revillame’s new co-host on “Willing Willie” is Shalani Soledad.

The ex-GF of President Noynoy is Willie’s personal choice. Seems the new tandem is out to show that, just as their names rhyme, they have the chemistry to make the game show sizzle even more.

It took a lot of persuasion before Shalani said “yes.” She’s gone through a lot after her breakup with P-Noy.

As her mom puts it, “Alam kong

nagmahal ng totoo ang anak ko. Sa mga patuloy na bumabatikos sa anak ko, di nila alam ang totoong kwento. Mahirap na magsalita kasi maliit na tao lang kami. Pero disente naman ang aming pamilya. Walang katotohanan na may anak si Shalani sa dati niyang BF at di rin totoo na si Mayor Sherwin Gatchalian ang pinalit niya kay P-Noy.”

With her foray into hosting, the charming Valenzuela councilor will be too busy to dwell on her heartaches. We hope that soon enough, the wounds will heal so she will be busy being happy and be happy being busy.

Romance over

Pia Guanio was spotted with a non-show biz date in Tagaytay. It could have been just a friendly date. But it could also be a telltale sign that her romance with Vic Sotto is really over. Is it pack up and change casting for Vic and Pia?

No vacancy

Karen Davila sent feelers to TV5 to join the Kapatid network’s news department. But since there seems to be no vacancy yet, she was offered to join the soon-to-be launched cable network of TV5.

Karen will be an asset to any news team. It just feels odd when news anchors become headline material. But Karen has enough grace and dignity to handle all the pressure.

Damage control

Rumors that Claudine Barretto and Raymart Santiago’s marriage is on the rocks refuse to die down. Perhaps as damage control, Claudine tweeted: “Finished guesting in ‘Bantatay.’ Off to Batangas to celebrate our anniversary.” Quarrels serve as a renewal of love. Hopefully, that’s the case with the beleaguered Santiagos.

Where to, Q?

Is Q Channel 11 really folding up? Are there plans to convert it into a cable news network like ANC? The Q in QTV could very well stand for Questions, as viewers await the final verdict.

‘Bakal Boys’ wins in France

By **MARINEL R. CRUZ**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—“Baseco Bakal Boys,” a docu-drama about children who scavenge for metal scraps in the murky waters of Manila Bay, bagged the Best Film Award at the 2010 Asian Connection Film Festival in Lyon, France, its director Ralston Jover announced on Tuesday.

The festival, held from Nov. 3 to 10, aims to discover and support young Asian filmmakers.

“Baseco Bakal Boys” received the Grand Prix du Public, besting five other films, according to the festival website. “Piercing,” by Liu Jian of China, placed second. “Mother is a Whore,” by Lee Sang-woo of South Korea, won third place.

This is the eighth award for “Baseco Bakal Boys” since it premiered at the 2009 CinemaLaya Independent Film Festival, where it won the Network for the Promotion of Asian Cinema (Netpac) prize. Jover said he considers each award as “validations of one’s vision.”

“Baseco Bakal Boys” tells the story of young metal diver Utoy (Meljun Ginto), who loses a friend in the middle of a scavenging activity in the waters of Manila Bay. Accidental deaths and disappearances are natural occurrences villagers in the Baseco compound have learned to live with. It is in this state that the film depicts the struggles of their lives.

“The kids are all in school now,” Jover told Inquirer Entertainment through a text message on Tuesday. “Meljun is in Grade 2.” Meljun’s work on the film earned for him a Best Performance Award nomination from the Young Critic’s Circle.

Jover said the livelihood program for the mothers of the Bakal Boys continues. Film producer Albert Almendralejo and supporters from San Beda College and SM Foundation are also backing the program.

Maharlika – Opinyon

What is your legacy

In a recent meeting, someone said, “This is my legacy, the one I want others to continue for me if anything should happen to me.”

I am a senior citizen. Among people my age, it is not strange for thoughts of our mortality being part of a conversation. By this time, there have been many friends and acquaintances that have passed away. Legacies, then, can be a real concern of many among us.

However, it was a young man in his early thirties, healthy and just starting his career as a painter and artist, who was talking about the legacy he wanted to leave behind. It was so important to him that he expressed this “death” wish in writing to a few people close to him.

In that small meeting were all individuals who were in pursuit of

a dream, all part of a new generation of Filipino Americans in their 20s to their 40s. I was the odd man out, so to speak, being 20 years older than the youngest among them. Yet, I felt no older, and they felt no younger, in a common cause we were all part of, driven by a common dream for our people and our motherland.

In the last three years, I have been traveling to the United States every quarter as part of my work to promote Gawad Kalinga, or GK. A U.S.-based partner of GK was interested in expanding the awareness about the work to Filipino-Americans, and then, hopefully, to engage a greater number to actively supporting GK with both funds and presence. It was agreed that I would help him find ways and means to make this happen.

It has been a special experience for me, almost a spiritual journey to make not just more friends but to become more intimate with the reasons why Filipinos left their motherland for America. I had wrongly assumed that it was just for the money, but had been right that most immigrants may have considered themselves as poor but were not actually from the poorest of the poor in the Philippines. In fact, they came from economic Classes C and upper D, with some even from Class A. In other words, they were not the most financially desperate among Filipinos.

They may have had money in mind, but they had other reasons as well, maybe even more driving than just income. There have been a few waves of migration from the Philippines to America, and all may say that they were in search of greener pastures. However, greener pastures have more to do about opportunity, about choices, than just plain income. At least one reason that drove many Filipinos here for a period of about 20 years was to escape from a country because freedom was suppressed. What was common among Filipino immigrants was a sense of desperation.

America is a dream choice among Filipinos who desperately want to have a chance for a radically new life for themselves and their families. But, then, again, America is a dream choice not only for Filipinos, so much so that the United States has to carefully control the in-migration to the country from all over the world. As a result, many Filipinos with that sense of desperation find themselves in countries they may not really prefer but find as a better option

than staying in the Philippines.

Because opportunity is translated also as higher income that opens more doors, the poverty that afflicts the Philippines definitely drives many Filipinos to foreign lands. But opportunity may also mean the greater freedom for mobility, for exposure and knowledge, or for simple expression. Corruption and a feudal system which has persisted despite the political independence of the Philippines combines in a very insidious manner with poverty to limit economic growth of poor families and to suppress the freedom for most other aspirations.

Leaving the motherland is hardly because there is a diluted sense of patriotism, but because patriotism itself is denied development in a citizen's heart. To the life of a poor person or family, what then is country? What would make a poor person or family, landless and

without the right to be in any square meter in their land of birth - and without the means to rent that right? What benefits are derived from a land of obvious plenty by a Filipino family who is only a step ahead of hunger while public officials of the land can spend millions for a dinner in New York? What can make a Filipino love the Philippines other than a birth in a motherland not yet of his or her choice?

The challenge now rests heavily on the shoulders of Filipinos who have reason to love our motherland. It may be that, like me, the circumstance of birth favored me economically, socially and politically. It may be like those who built on

their boldness, on their education, on their perseverance, and, most likely, on their business sense, and can now help others. It may be that, like most Filipinos, a basic goodness, a sense of bayanihan and a commitment to walang iwanan, transcends personal interest in order to give succor to a fellow Filipino. When Filipinos go beyond the boundaries of family and clan to care for another as a brother or sister of the same motherland, then even the impoverished and marginalized are given good reasons to love country and race.

The young man had said in my presence and in the presence of comrades in the same cause, “This is my legacy, the one I wish others would continue for me in case anything should happened to me.”

I have asked myself since then, “What is mine?” And I ask you, “What is yours?”

EDITORIAL

Out of the box

The one-day visit of former U.S. President Bill Clinton was the precise opposite of Forrest Gump's proverbial box of chocolates: We knew exactly what we were going to get. This is not to say that there was nothing his hosts could learn from the most successful U.S. Democratic politician since Franklin Delano Roosevelt; Clinton's work after he left the White House in 2001 is especially instructive. But there was no surprise that the assured performance of one of the most accomplished speakers on the world stage hit all the expected buttons.

There was praise of the incumbent President of the Philippines. “One thing I like about him is that he's got a lot of energy,” Clinton said of President Benigno Aquino III. “I like people who are excited about their jobs. I must have asked him about 10 different things and he knew a lot about them.”

There was recognition of the Philippines' potential. “One of the things you know for sure: you're smart enough to do it. You have a huge population which is a positive, and you have massive natural resources.”

There was a series of geopolitical references, which he used to draw lessons applicable to the Philippines. Not very many people know, for instance, that Rwanda, the site of one of the worst genocides in the late 20th century, was able to rebuild from the great trauma: “They quadrupled their income in less than 10 years and they were able to do it because of a relentless focus on the future. They developed a tremendous capacity to abandon grievance.”

There was old-fashioned, give-'em-what-they-want politics. Clinton regaled the largely elite audience with his recognition of boxing icon Manny Pacquiao's global popularity, saying he had met him in Las Vegas and was thankful for Pacquiao's last-minute endorsement of and campaign rally appearance for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, the Democratic senator from Nevada who was on the verge of losing. “I'm sure he won because Manny Pacquiao campaigned for him.” (Loud applause.)

And there was the other, even more ancient kind of politics, of self-interest. Clinton began his address with a word about the controversial Visiting Forces Agreement governing the conduct of U.S. troops in the Philippines. It was a subtle pitch for the Philippines, which is currently reviewing what many critics have called a lopsided VFA, to retain the agreement.

As we said, nothing unexpected. There were at least two points he made, however, that potentially carry very interesting policy implications.

He addressed the continuing phenomenon of the so-called brain and brawn drain, millions of Filipinos working overseas for better pay. “Filipinos have done great around the world, and I think that as an economic model, it's really good for individual people and families. But I think you need to try to get more people to come home.”

He also came as close as a former U.S. president has ever come to apologizing for the American colonization of the Philippines. Asked by moderator Maria Ressa why it seemed the Philippines has not yet achieved its full potential, Clinton began his extended reply with the following words: “On the whole, it wasn't a big advantage of the nation to have been colonized, if you will, by Spain and the United States.”

Here, it seems to us, is where Malacañang can turn this lightning visit into long-term profit. It can trumpet Clinton's full support for the conditional cash transfers at the center of Aquino's first budget with all the resources in its control, but it can also follow Clinton's lead and ask: Has the Philippines fully thrown off the disadvantages of a history of colonialism? Vis-à-vis the VFA, Clinton himself may not like the answer.



Glimpses

By JOSE MA. MONTELIBANO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

‘Balut’: egg or fowl?

Fasting and abstinence are sacrifices Roman Catholics do during the Lenten Season, sometimes known as “Cuaresma” in the Philippines. Fasting means taking only one meal a day (or two small snacks or “collations”) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, while abstinence means avoiding meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. (In other places, Catholics abstain from meat on all Fridays of the year.) In many Filipino homes, mongo soup is served on Fridays and this may be connected to some Lenten or Catholic practice in the past now forgotten.

Abstinence may seem simple, but there have been many discussions on exemptions to it. Senior citizens and the sick are not required to fast or abstain. What I hope to find documentation for are the debates over certain kinds of food. In the Spanish Philippines, for example, there was a debate on whether the dugong or “sea-cow” when butchered and served at Lent was considered fish or meat. I was told that the dugong became rare and almost extinct because it was declared fish and could be eaten during Lent and all Fridays. Then there was the question about balut and whether this was considered egg or fowl.

I remembered all these food debates while reading laws passed by the Royal Audiencia of Manila in 1598 regulating food supplies. On Dec. 7, 1598, the Royal Audiencia instructed specific alcaldes mayores to supply Manila with food: Tondo in January, February and March; Pampanga in April, May and June; Bulacan in July and August; Laguna in September and October; Mindoro and Balayan, Batangas, in November and December. The weekly quota consisted of: 300 laying hens (the fourth or third part of them pullets, at the rate of four small ones or two large ones for laying fowl), 2,000 eggs and the appropriate number of swine. What is interesting here was that Tondo and Pampanga were advised that during Lent they must send eggs instead of fowl.

It is not clear whether these food supplies were to be paid for by the City of Manila or by the office of the Governor General, but we see from this ordinance that the sustenance of the city came from the above provinces and that Tondo and Pampanga alone could afford to supply the city for half the year, while Balayan and Mindoro had to share two months. Ordinances and laws sometimes provide economic and historical data that help us understand how people lived in the past.

Two other ordinances by the Royal Audiencia I ignored previously became relevant for my food research. On Oct. 2, 1598, the Royal Audiencia acted to ensure a constant supply of fowl and to control prices. At the time, fowl was quite scarce and, if you were lucky or had the connections to find one for sale, you had to pay three or four reales for it. This being basic food, natives were ordered to raise fowl or pay a fine of one toston, the fine to be divided equally between the two hospitals in the city, one for Spaniards, the other for natives. What made this ordinance different was that the regular supply of cheap fowl was only secondary. Its primary aim was to get natives to raise fowl and sell them so that they would have enough money to pay their annual tribute! This was a law ordering the natives to be industrious so they could earn enough to pay their taxes.

Another ordinance issued on Oct. 15, 1598 detailed food supplies required by the city like buffalo meat. These couldn't be carabao meat, since they were needed for farming. A contract was entered into with 10 Indian arquebusiers who had hunting permits to supply the city with

the meat of at least one buffalo daily. The meat was to be brought to the city, weighed and distributed to the citizens. Pork was to be sold only in the public square by weight and at fixed rates. It was not allowed to sell a dead hog or parts of a hog anywhere else. Those caught were punished with 20 lashes and confiscation of the meat. Fish were also given fixed prices not specified in the law.

Natives and Sangley gardeners were ordered to raise fowl and swine. Failure to do so resulted in a fine of four reales, (three reales went to the city hospitals, one real to the mayor or judge who executed this order). Fowl, swine, wine, rice, olive oil, vinegar and other food supplies were to be brought to an

appointed city official and sold at government set prices. In principle, there was no black market, but there must have been a thriving underground economy somewhere.

The prices for fowl were set as follows: laying Sangley capon, 3.5 reales; Sangley hen, 2.5 reales; Moro hen, 2 reales; pullet, 1.5 reales; male chicken, one real. Nobody was to sell fowl outside the designated distribution centers within five leagues of the city.

Aside from buffalo meat, pork, fish, fowl, rice, oil and vinegar which were under price control, everything else were sold at market rates.

It was also ordered that merchants en route to the city with food were not to be harassed or molested.

Each time you see vegetable, fruit and meat dealers being stopped by the police for imagined traffic violations these days, remember that our laws go back over four centuries but people remain the same.



Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Maharlika – Samu't Sari



GIVING BACK TO COMMUNITY

John K. Baldwin, left, principal and chief executive officer of Bridge Capital LLC, and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, right, show a giant replica of a \$50,825 check that Bridge Capital LLC donated to 18 groups and organizations this year, 13 of them receiving the checks and a van on Wednesday on Capital Hill.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



GUEST SPEAKER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman talks about the need to put up a program that will educate criminals about deterrent factors during the general membership meeting of the Saipan Rotary Club at Hyatt Regency Hotel's Giovanni's Restaurant. Also in the photo are Rotary Club's secretary Vicky Concepcion, president Glen Perez, and president-elect Nel Matanguihan.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE



PRAYER RALLY

Alien workers and their children hold a prayer vigil Tuesday night at the American Memorial Park's amphitheater in time for U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta's arrival on Saipan to host a forum on economic and labor development. The workers also launched at the prayer rally an online petition that seeks President Obama's help in extending protection to foreign workers in the CNMI. The petition can be viewed at unheardnomore.blogspot.com. The workers, estimated at over 200, offered prayers during the program that kicked off at 6:30pm. They dispersed at 8pm.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



NEWS BRIEFING

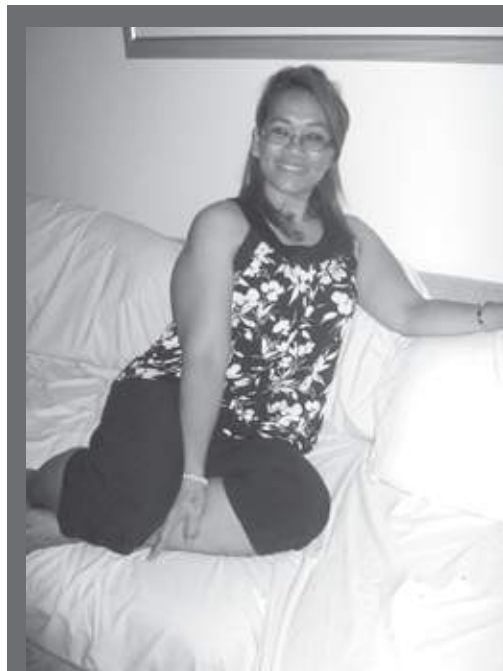
Department of Public Health officials raise the alarm on the surprisingly early wave of flu infections on the islands. From left are immunization program manager Jeremy Sasamoto, medical director Dr. Shirish Balachandra, and hospital epidemiologist Ed Diaz during Wednesday's press conference. Other officials not in photo are special assistant to the secretary of DPH Roxanne Diaz, deputy secretary for public health and administration John Tagabuel, and public health and hospital program director Warren Villagomez.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



NEW WATER SYSTEM

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, second from left, leads a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially signal the completion of the Rapogao and Sablan Quarry Well Field Isolation and Water System Improvement project. Fitial, along with CUC executive director Abe Malae, Pete Sasamoto of the Water Task Force office, and OIA's Keith Aughenbaugh led other government officials and representatives from AIC Marianas, Inc. in inaugurating the CNMI's newest water distribution system complete with a 400,000-gallon water storage tank.



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Advanced happy birthday to Maggie Muña Masga, who is celebrating her special day on Nov. 14, 2010! God bless, enjoy and may you have many more birthdays to come! We love you! Greetings come from the kids, grandkids, Jack Mims, Randall Pangelinan, Mary and John Sablan, friends, and the Muña-Masga family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy birthday to Venus Shoiter, seated center, who celebrated her birthday on Nov. 7, 2010. We wish you blessings and more years to come. Greetings come from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YoungStyle

Sex, drugs more common in hyper-texting teens

By MIKE STOBBE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

ON THE NET

Conference: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/>

ATLANTA (AP)—Teens who text 120 times a day or more—and there seems to be a lot of them—are more likely to have had sex or used alcohol and drugs than kids who don't send as many messages, according to provocative new research.

The study's authors aren't suggesting that "hyper-texting" leads to sex, drinking or drugs, but say it's startling to see an apparent link between excessive messaging and that kind of risky behavior.

The study concludes that a significant number of teens are very susceptible to peer pressure and also have permissive or absent parents, said Dr. Scott Frank, the study's lead author.

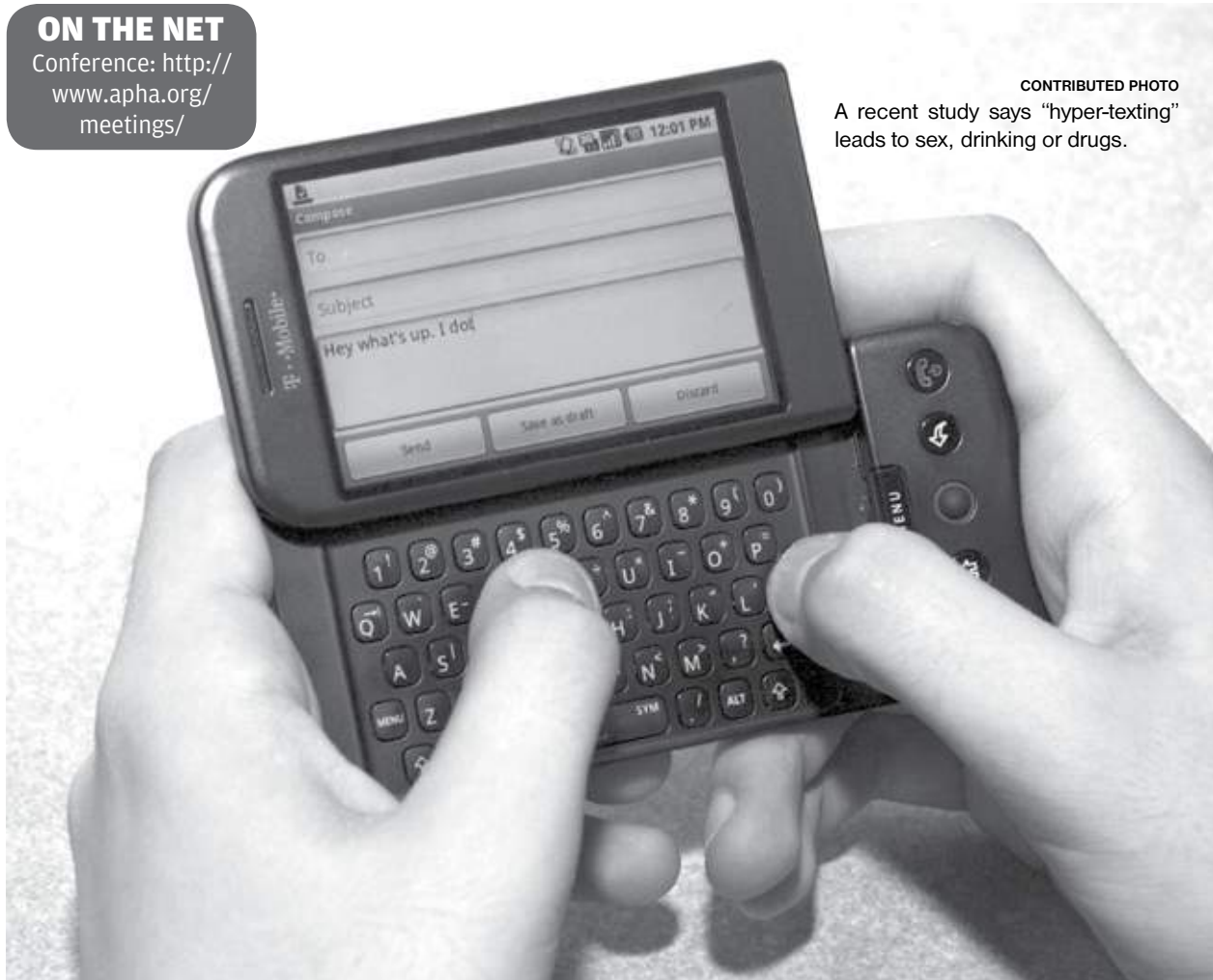
"If parents are monitoring their kids' texting and social networking, they're probably monitoring other activities as well," said Frank, an associate professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Frank was scheduled to present the study Tuesday at a meeting of the American Public Health Association in Denver.

The study was done at 20 public high schools in the Cleveland area last year, and is based on confidential paper surveys of more than 4,200 students.

It found that about one in five students were hyper-texters and about one in nine are hyper-networkers—those who spend three or more hours a day on Facebook and other social networking websites.

About one in 25 fall into both categories.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A recent study says "hyper-texting" leads to sex, drinking or drugs.

Hyper-texting and hyper-networking were more common among girls, minorities, kids whose parents have less education and students from a single-mother household, the study found.

Frank's study is billed as one of the first studies to look at texting and social networking and whether they are linked to actual sexual intercourse or to

other risky behaviors.

"This study demonstrates that it's a legitimate question to explore," said Douglas Gentile, who runs the Media Research Lab at Iowa State University.

The study found those who text at least 120 times a day are nearly three-and-a-half times more likely to have had sex than their peers who don't text

that much. Hyper-texters were also more likely to have been in a physical fight, binge drink, use illegal drugs or take medication without a prescription.

Compared to the heavy texters, the hyper-networkers were not as likely to have had sex, but more likely to have been involved in other risky behaviors like drinking or fighting.

A Kaiser Family Foundation study found that about half of children ages 8 to 18 send text messages on a cell phone in a typical day. The texters estimated they average 118 texts per day. That study also found that only 14 percent of kids said their parents set rules limiting texting.

Other studies have tied teen texting to risky or lewd behavior. A Pew Research Center study found that about one-third of 16- and 17-year-olds send texts while driving. And an Associated Press-MTV poll found that about one-quarter of teenagers have "sexted"—shared sexually explicit photos, videos and chat by cell phone or online.

The latest survey did not ask what students texted or what they discussed on social networks.

One suburban Cleveland student said her texts involve non-sexual small talk with friends, homework assignments and student council bake sales.

"I text with my mother about what time I need picked up," said Tiara Freeman-Sargeant, a 14-year-old Shaker Heights High School freshman. She said she sends and receives about 250 texts a day.

Talking on the phone just isn't appealing to some teens, said her classmate, Ivanna Storms-Thompson.

"Your arm gets tired, your ear gets sweaty," said Ivanna, who also doesn't like the awkward silences.

Like her friend, Ivanna said she mostly gets A's. Whether kids who text do well in school or behave in a crazy, risky way is coincidental, she said.

"It depends on who you're talking to and whether they have their priorities straight," she said.

Holiday shopping battle starts to get pitched

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP RETAIL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—From free shipping from Wal-Mart to Sears stores open on Thanksgiving for the first time, the battle for holiday shoppers' dollars has begun in earnest.

The early competition to break through shoppers' caution about spending promises savings for those willing to buy amid an economy that's still worrying many. It also promises convenience. Retailers are offering deals anytime, anywhere their customers want, through websites, smart phones and Facebook.

Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving that typically kicks off holiday shopping, is not only being marketed as "Black Friday week," but for a growing number of stores, "Black Friday month."

As for Thanksgiving, some retailers like Sears and Gap's Old Navy hope shoppers will head to stores after they finish their turkey feasts. On the Web, Kohl's Corp. and Target Corp. are among many merchants dramatically stepping up deals that day, counting on that holiday to

be one of the busiest days of the year online.

"Everything is faster and sooner," said Dan Grandpre, editor-in-chief of Dealnews.com, which opened an office in Dublin, Ireland, a few months ago to monitor the frenetic pace of offers, particularly during the holidays. Dealnews is based in Huntsville, Ala.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is clearly going for the jugular in the holiday retailing fight. It announced Thursday that it will offer free shipping on nearly 60,000 online items—with no minimum purchase requirement. The offer, which includes most electronics, jewelry and toys, will run through Dec. 20. Return shipping is also free, or items can be returned to a local store.

Wal-Mart's free offer comes on top of similarly aggressive free shipping programs from Target and J.C. Penney. Wal-Mart's deal adds to the discounters' Site to Store program, which lets customers buy an item online and have it shipped free to their local Walmart store for pickup.

Walmart.com is even testing a service at nearly 800 stores

that lets customers see inventory and purchase products right from home. The online orders are usually ready to be picked up at a store within four hours.

That concept isn't new, but many stores are joining Walmart in trying to speed up the turnaround time, says Noam Paransky, retail strategist at Kurt Salmon Associates.

"Retailers are trying to be in front of customers 24/7," Paransky said. With the wider adoption of smart phones, "it's

exploding this year."

Facebook.com recently launched its Deals program, teaming up with a number of stores including Penney and Gap Inc. The offering allows shoppers to "check in" using smart phones to these shops and reap rewards or discounts.

The intense marketing is happening in a season in which shoppers are expected to spend only a little more than last year. Unemployment is still stuck close to 10 percent, and consumer confidence has been anemic for months and months.



AP

In this Feb. 17, 2009 file photo, shoppers leave a Wal-Mart in Danvers, Mass. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is going for the jugular in the holiday retailing war, announcing Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010, that it will offer free shipping on nearly 60,000 online items—with no minimum purchase requirement.

The National Retail Federation expects a 2.3 percent increase in spending to \$447.1 billion. That would fall short of the 10-year historic average of 2.5 percent, according to the retail trade group.

Online, the prospects are brighter. Online research firm comScore Inc. expects anywhere from 7 to 9 percent growth compared with a year ago, when business was up 4 percent over the previous year, according to its calculations. About 10 percent of holiday sales are made online, according to Forrester analyst Sucharita Mulpur.

"You clearly have a consumer who is restrained. So you have this drive to encourage consumers to spend," Kevin Mansell, Kohl's president and CEO, said in an interview with The Associated Press. But a bigger factor is "retailers have to move with the consumer, and the consumer wants ultimately flexibility of buying. You have to move with her."

Against this background, the holiday deals have come in rapid-fire succession. In the past 24 hours, Best Buy Co. announced it's discounting a number of its electronics items this Friday and Saturday. For example, it has a 40-inch LCD

HDTV for \$399.99.

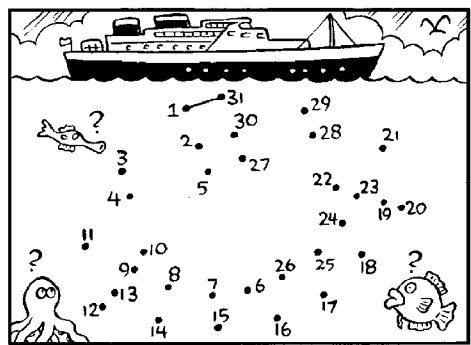
Retailer Kmart said it's letting customers who buy items online pick up purchases on the same day at more than 600 locations. The retailer, owned by Sears Holdings Corp., also announced customers can now buy items through the Kmart2go mobile web site or smart phone applications and select in-store pickup. The apps also can be used in-store for product information.

But many are also not waiting to give shoppers a sneak preview of what type of come-ons they'll find the day after Thanksgiving:

■ Target will offer discounts both online and in stores. It's offering a Thanksgiving Day sale online with deals including discounts of up to 50 percent off on electronics such as cameras, TVs, a Blu-ray player and video game console. In stores, Target will have 25 early morning Black Friday bargains, 11 more than last year.

■ Staples is offering deals from 6 a.m. to noon including a \$499.98 HP Laptop with an Intel Celeron 900 Processor marked down to \$299.98.

■ The Disney Store plans to offer 20 percent off most items until 10 a.m. It also plans to open 110 locations at midnight.



WHAT DOES a fully loaded 50,000-ton container ship weigh just before leaving port? Connect the dots and find out.

Answer: It weighs anchor.

HIDDEN ANIMALS! Can you find the three animals that are hidden in these three sentences?

1. The whippoorwill's song filled the night.
2. A tempura tsunami of terrific tastes.
3. Sumo lessons are from nine to one.

Answers: 1. Hippo. 2. Rats. 3. Moles.

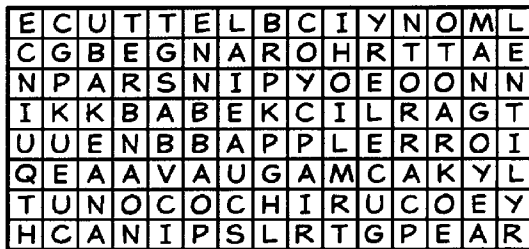
IT'S MAGIC! Use the numbers 3 through 12 to fill in this Magic Number Square. The numbers in each horizontal row and vertical column should total 44. We've filled in six of the squares. The rest is up to you. Use trial and error — and a good eraser!

Our answer: First row: 10, 13, 18, 3. Second row: 17, 4, 9, 14. Third row: 5, 20, 11, 8. Fourth row: 12, 7, 6, 19.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A FRUITS & VEGGIES PUZZLE!



Illustrated by David Coulson

Hidden in the diagram above are the names of 26 fruits and vegetables. They can be found reading up or down, or side to side. You'll even find them diagonally going up or down. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the names you're looking for.

| | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| APPLE | GARLIC | PARSNIP |
| BANANA | GRAPE | PEA |
| BEET | GUAVA | PEAR |
| CABBAGE | LENTIL | PUMPKIN |
| CARROT | LETTUCE | QUINCE |
| CELERY | LIME | RHUBARB |
| CHERRY | MANGO | SHALLOT |
| COCONUT | OKRA | SPINACH |
| CORN | ORANGE | |



Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was Kurt Vonnegut, one of the most influential American writers of the 20th century, who made the following sage observation: "Laughter and tears are both responses to frustration and exhaustion. I myself prefer to laugh, since there is less cleaning up to do afterward."

■ Snakes are sometimes born with two heads, but they don't survive long. It seems the heads fight each other for food.

■ Pregnant women might be particularly interested in the following: The animal that is pregnant the longest is the African elephant, with an average gestation period of 660 days (though some pregnancies can last up to 100 days longer). The record for shortest gestation period is held jointly by three marsupials, including the American opossum, which remain pregnant for only 12 to 13 days.

■ During this season of excess, it might be worthwhile to remember that the typical holiday meal contains more than 3,000 calories. It also might be worthwhile to remember that the suggested daily intake of calories for men is 2,500; for women it's 2,000.

■ Americans' collective annual tab for dry-cleaning services comes to approximately \$8 billion.

■ If you're an arachnophobe, you might not want to read the following tidbit of information: Scientists in Madagascar recently discovered a new species of bark spider that spins webs over rivers and other bodies of water. What makes these webs noteworthy is that they are the largest ever recorded, measuring up to 82 feet across.

■ Zachary Taylor, the 12th president of the United States, let his horse graze on the lawn of the White House.

Thought for the Day: "Perpetual devotion to what a man calls his business, is only to be sustained by perpetual neglect of many other things." — Robert Louis Stevenson

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MAGIC MAZE • 2010 ATLANTIC HURRICANE NAMES

W A W T P L I E B X U Q N J G
D Z W T Q N K F D H D A X U R
X P M J G A I D A A X V S Q N
K E I E L O C I N F D A X V T
Q O L U N M A W I J H F C A Y
W U A A R I N I E P N L N J H
F P D S B Z M I L H X O O V T
R Q O I M K N R L U T T T I L
H F D L B N A O E O J T S R Z
Y W V T O K R G Q H C O A O N
L K I B H F D I C A Z E G M X

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

| | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|--------|
| Alex | Earl | Julia | Nicole |
| Bonnie | Fiona | Karl | Otto |
| Colin | Gaston | Lisa | Paula |
| Danielle | Hermine | Matthew | |

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

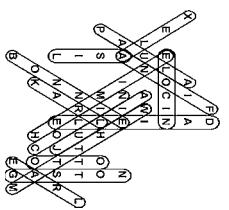
DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

| | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|----|
| | - | | x | | 8 |
| x | | + | | ÷ | |
| | + | | ÷ | | 15 |
| - | | + | | + | |
| | x | | - | | 21 |
| 16 | | 16 | | 17 | |

1 2 3 5 6 7 8 8 9
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MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



2010 ATLANTIC HURRICANE NAMES

GO FIGURE ANSWER

| | | |
|----|-------|-------|
| 17 | 91 | 91 |
| 21 | 6 | 9 x 5 |
| | + | + |
| 15 | 1 ÷ 8 | + |
| | ÷ | + |
| 8 | 8 x 2 | - 3 |

Cat goes everywhere but the litter box

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My house cat "Snowball" has been having problems urinating in places other than her litter box. She loves rugs, towels, my daughters' beds, pillows and even her own bed. The vet suggested getting another litter box. She now has two. She will urinate on something within 1 foot of a litter box.

I read in your column that cats that do this could have a urinary-tract infection or diabetes. Snowball was treated for six weeks for a urinary infection and still continues to urinate outside of her box. I took her back to the vet to be tested again for urinary-tract infection and diabetes. Both tests were negative. The vet thinks she's just mad at us. I'm tired of this happening. Any suggestions?—Michelle S., via e-mail

DEAR MICHELLE: There's usually a good reason for a cat urinating regularly outside the litter box, and being "just mad" is probably not one of them. You did the right thing by having her checked and treated for a urinary tract infection, and checked for more serious diseases, so you've eliminated a physical issue that may have initiated the problem. Now it's time to address the behavioral issue—which has nothing to do with Snowball resenting you, but more to do with an association she's formed.

First, get rid of both litter boxes (yes, the new one too). Thoroughly clean the



area where they were located, and then get a new box. Next, monitor Snowball closely. As soon as she starts urinating anywhere other than her box, simply pick her up and place her in the box. Use soothing, encouraging language. She may be associating the box with the pain of her urinary-tract infection, so you need to reintroduce her to it.

Remember also to thoroughly clean the areas that Snowball has urinated using an enzyme cleaner developed specifically for pet cleanup. It's available at pet stores. If she's urinated on carpet, you may need to treat the padding underneath as well.

Send your pet questions and tips to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.pawscorner.com.

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Paint pumpkins gold for Thanksgiving table

Pumpkins might sound "so yesterday" with Halloween long gone and the excitement of Thanksgiving Day on the way. But never underestimate the beauty pumpkins can deliver when transformed into a glistening golden shine with a little metallic paint and creativity. Once they are hollowed out by the kids, they make dandy vases for fresh flowers from your grocery store. Keep the kids busy by letting them arrange the blooms in the gilded pumpkins just in time to set on the table for stunning, yet inexpensive, Thanksgiving centerpieces.

I discovered that pumpkins are still abundant and cheap this month at farms, garden centers and grocery stores. Think about gilding mini pumpkins too, which you can find with the gourds and squash in the produce section of your grocery store. Transform them into cute "place card" bouquets for each guest or into alluring votive candleholders that will add a golden sparkle on your table between the turkey, cranberries and the pies.

Here are three simple steps for making a pumpkin arrangement:

1. On a newspaper-covered surface, an adult should cut off the top of a medium-size, firm and smooth pumpkin, creating an opening that is 4-5 inches in diameter. Let the kids scoop out the pulp and seeds with their hands and a spoon. Wash the outside with a damp cloth. Let dry.

2. On a newspaper-covered surface outside, or in a well-ventilated garage, an adult should spray the exterior of the pumpkin with gold metallic spray paint available at craft and hardware stores. Let dry.

3. Line the inside of the pumpkin with foil or plastic wrap. Place a chunk of damp florist foam trimmed to fit snugly in the hollowed-out portion. The



kids may poke trimmed stems of flowers, leaves and twigs into the foam, one at a time, until the arrangement is complete. Set it on a waterproof plate. Add water to the foam as necessary to keep flowers fresh.

Extra mini-pumpkin ideas:

■ Make golden mini-pumpkin arrangements following the directions above. For place cards, glue small cards with guests' names or photos printed on them to trimmed wooden skewers. Tuck into the arrangements.

■ For golden pumpkin votive candleholders, set a tea light and its metal casing inside the cavity or use a battery-operated tea light.

An adult should always be present when burning candles.

Note: Acrylic paint in a metallic gold shade also works if you prefer not to use spray paint, although it takes longer to dry and may require several coats.

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Distributed by King Features Synd.

Life & Style

'Deathly Hallows' will leave fans eager for finale

LONDON (AP)—The minister of magic proclaims that dark times have arisen in the opening moments of the new "Harry Potter" film—and the turmoil that follows lives up to that billing. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" chronicles the chaos that engulfs the wizardry world as evil Lord Voldemort seizes power and sets out to destroy Harry.

The film, which premiered Thursday night before its theatrical release next week, is an epic 2 1/2-hour tease that should leave fans salivating for "Part 2," the final "Potter" movie, which does not arrive until next July.

Fans may leave frustrated that they have to wait eight months for the finale. But the seventh and final novel in J.K. Rowling's fantasy series needed to be broken into two parts, said Daniel Radcliffe, who stars as

the teen wizard Harry.

"I was always very much in favor of it being two parts, and I think most people were, simply because we all realized there was no way you could do justice to the book and really capture the story in one film," Radcliffe said.

In the first six books, there was secondary action that could be cut from the movies, "themes which, while exciting and while fans love them, simply don't add anything to the main thrust of the story," Radcliffe said. "In the seventh book, there is very little extraneous stuff that's not actually contributing heavily to the main plot line."

"Part 1" sends Harry and pals Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint) outside their usual haunts at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. They're in perpetual danger as they hit the road to hide from Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes) and his followers, the Death Eaters, while simultaneously seeking



In this film publicity image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Daniel Radcliffe, left, and Emma Watson are shown in a scene from "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1."

to find and destroy magical artifacts that are the key to Voldemort's dark powers.

"It's kind of an edgy road movie, where these three iconic characters, who we've always seen in this magical place called Hogwarts, are thrust out into the big, bad world and have to fend for themselves and survive," said David Yates, who directed both parts of "Deathly Hallows" as well as the fifth and sixth "Harry Potter" films.

"As much as we love Hogwarts, we needed a fresh envi-

ronment. We needed to be out of our comfort zones, definitely," Watson said.

And what's Voldemort aiming to get out of all of this?

"Everyone knows, don't they? They read all the books, don't they? They all know what he's up to: world domination, total power," Fiennes said.

The story tests the bonds among Harry, Hermione and Ron as jealousy, suspicion, bickering and feelings of betrayal undermine their relationship.

They all take painful leave of

their homes: Harry taking a last glance at the sad little closet under the stairs where he lived as a boy; Ron worrying about the safety of his large and loving family; Hermione making an agonizing act of self-sacrifice to protect her parents.

Along the way, they journey into enemy territory at the Ministry of Magic, which Voldemort's followers have turned into a fascist monolith bearing the slogan "Magic Is Might." They learn of the Deathly Hallows, powerful gifts bestowed

upon three brothers by Death itself. And they have a savage encounter with fanatic Voldemort flunky Bellatrix Lestrange, played with wicked glee by Helena Bonham Carter, one of the highlights of the franchise's roster of esteemed British actors.

Newcomer Rhys Ifans is a standout as the spacey but tragic wizard journalist Xenophilius Lovegood, while Bill Nighy joins the cast as Minister of Magic Rufus Scrimgeour. The returning actors include Alan Rickman, Robbie Coltrane, John Hurt, Brendan Gleeson, Imelda Staunton, Jason Isaacs, Tom Felton, Julie Walters, David Thewlis and Bonnie Wright.

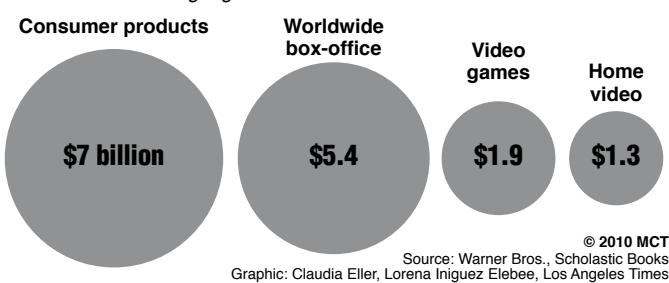
"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" will bring to a close one of Hollywood's most remarkable film franchises, a gambit of more than a decade by Warner Bros. to bring all of Rowling's novels to the screen before the young stars outgrew their roles.

The result will be a 20-hour saga that lets fans watch Harry grow from a shy, neglected 11-year-old to a bold, noble young man.

"I don't think it'll take too long before these films do finish and finally come out for cinemas all over the world to be having 'Harry Potter' marathons, where they just play them all back to back," Radcliffe said. "And I imagine attendance will be huge."

An empire beyond the page

There's more to the Harry Potter franchise than the 400-million-plus books sold in 69 languages.



De Laurentiis, last of the movie moguls, dies

NEW YORK (AP)—He was a small man who dreamed big, hit the highest heights and failed like few others.

Dino De Laurentiis was born to be a movie producer.

The Academy Award-winning legend of the Italian New Wave and producer of "Serpico" and "Barbarella" who helped revolutionize the way movies are bankrolled and helped personify the no-limits life of a cinematic king, died Wednesday night at the age of 91 in Beverly Hills.

His dozens of credits included the art-house classics "La Strada" and "Nights of Cabiria," the cult favorite "Blue Velvet," the Hollywood epics "War and Peace" and "The Bible," and such mainstream hits as "Three Days of the Condor." He backed horror films ("Halloween 2"), police drama ("Serpico") and the most far-out science fiction fused with sex and sexuality ("Barbarella").

And when he bombed, he really bombed: "Dune," about which director David Lynch complained he was denied creative control; the Madonna vehicle "Body of Evidence"; the 1976 remake of "King Kong,"

which nearly finished off the career of Jessica Lange before it really started.

Not all his movies had big budgets, but De Laurentiis didn't think a film was real without real money. "Night of Earth" director Jim Jarmusch has spoken of meeting with the producer at his office, where De Laurentiis' desk was big as Jarmusch's apartment. He spoke to Jarmusch about the director's low-cost productions.

"He asked me, 'Why do you make amateur films instead of professional ones?'" Jarmusch once recalled. "I asked what made a film amateur or professional. He said any film that costs more than \$5 million is professional."

De Laurentiis was one of the first producers to understand the box-office potential of foreign audiences, and helped invent international co-productions, raising money by pre-selling distribution rights outside North America.

He was tiny, but tough, a veritable Napoleon on the set and utterly tireless. "Such a little lion," was how his second wife, producer Martha De Laurentiis, put it when he turned 80.

Throughout his career, he alternated lavish, big-budget productions with less commercial films by directors such as Robert Altman, Ingmar Bergman and Lynch, and he often packaged the blockbusters with art films to secure distribution for the smaller films.

"The extraordinary thing that Dino taught all of us is the true

figure of the independent producer," De Laurentiis' nephew, Aurelio De Laurentiis, a noted Italian film producer, said Thursday. "He always behaved in the U.S. as a major studio, even though he was a one-man show."

"He was my biggest champion in life and a constant source for wisdom and advice. I will miss him dearly," granddaughter Giada De Laurentiis, a star chef and host on Food Network, said.

Raised outside of Naples and one of six children born into the family's pasta-making business, De Laurentiis quickly realized that his destiny was in moviemaking.

He was central to the rise of

Italy's film industry, which in the 1950s rose to international prominence as the Italian New Wave.

De Laurentiis' initial success began after World War II, starting with "Bitter Rice," in 1948, which launched the career of his first wife, Silvana Mangano.

In 1950, he went into business with another rising director, Carlo Ponti. They soon dominated the Italian movie busi-

ness, monopolizing top stars such as Mangano, Sophia Loren (who later married Ponti) and Marcello Mastroianni. Their first international production was the epic "War and Peace" (Henry Fonda, Audrey Hepburn, Mel Ferrer) in 1955.

With the lure of huge salaries, he often imported international movie stars to boost a film's prospects. For Fellini's "La Strada," which won the Academy Award for foreign language film in 1957, he persuaded Anthony Quinn to come to Rome. De Laurentiis also produced Fellini's "Nights of Cabiria," which won the foreign film Oscar a year later.

At Dinocitta, De Laurentiis married Hollywood stars with

spectacle: "Barrabas" (Quinn); "The Bible" (George C. Scott, Ava Gardner); "Anzio" (Robert Mitchum); "Waterloo" (Rod Steiger). He also made more offbeat fare, such as Roger Vadim's sex romp, "Barbarella" (Jane Fonda).

De Laurentiis was one of the first producers to understand the box-office potential of foreign audiences, and helped invent international co-productions, raising money by pre-selling distribution rights outside North America.

He began to move away from his base in Italy in the 1960s when the government changed the rules to mandate totally Italian productions to qualify for subsidies. He sold Dinocitta to the government in 1972. He relocated the studio in Wilmington, N.C., and dubbed his production company the De Laurentiis Entertainment Group.

The Oscar-winning "Serpico," in 1973 with Al Pacino, was De Laurentiis' Hollywood debut. Charles Bronson's "Death Wish," Robert Redford's "Three Days of the Condor" and John Wayne's last film, "The Shootist," followed.

He often stayed loyal to young, talented directors, even though the results weren't al-

ways strong. He made "Buffalo Bill and the Indians" with Robert Altman. Even after Michael Cimino's huge flop "Heaven's Gate," De Laurentiis made "Year of the Dragon" and "Desperate Hours" with him. Despite the failure of "Dune," he stuck with David Lynch and two years later produced the acclaimed "Blue Velvet."

De Laurentis also continued to be a small factory for tackiness. Though he had earlier worked with revered filmmakers such as Vittorio De Sica, Roberto Rossellini and Ingmar Bergman, some of his schlock included the plantation drama "Mandingo," the horror film "Amityville II," the cult comedy "Army of Darkness" and Madonna's "Body of Evidence."

Though flops like "King Kong" and "Hurricane" could be shaken off, personal tragedy took its toll. In 1981, his son Federico was killed in a plane crash. Mangano, his wife of more than four decades, died in 1989.

De Laurentiis, close to 70, was undaunted and started over. Within two years, he had a new wife, 29-year-old Martha Schumacher, formed a new company and started producing moneymakers again.



De Laurentiis

Willis salutes troops with party on USS Intrepid

NEW YORK (AP)—Bruce Willis, famous for his movie roles, believes the real stars are the military and veterans.

In honor of Veterans Day, the actor threw a party Thursday for hundreds of veterans on board the USS Intrepid, a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier that has been converted into a museum in New York City.

Willis says supporting veterans isn't about politics but about freedom, and he wants to recognize the men and women who've sacrificed their lives for Americans.

He says "there's no country like" the United States and that when he travels the world, he always loves "coming home."

The party was sponsored by Sobieski vodka, whose parent company Willis is a part owner of.



In this photograph taken by AP Images for Sobieski Vodka, actor Bruce Willis salutes the veterans and troops on the eve of Veterans Day at The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York, Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010.

Palin sticks mostly to heartland for book tour

Garfield creator apologizes for ill-timed strip

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Cartoonist Jim Davis apologized Thursday for a Garfield strip that some veterans may have found offensive.

The strip ran on Veterans Day in newspapers across the country. It shows a spider daring the pudgy orange cat to squash it. The spider tells Garfield that if he is killed, "they will hold an annual day of remembrance in my honor."

The final panel shows a spider-teacher asking its students if they know why spiders celebrate "National Stupid Day."

Davis, of Muncie, Ind., said in a statement posted on his website that he didn't know the strip would appear on Veterans Day. He said it was written nearly a year ago and called the publication Thursday "the worst timing ever."

"It absolutely, positively has nothing to do with this important day of remembrance," Davis said.

John Raughter, a spokesman for the Indianapolis-based American Legion, looked at the strip and Davis' statement after the cartoon was brought to his attention by a reporter. He said an apology wasn't necessary.

"We have no reason to doubt his explanation of what happened," Raughter said.

Davis said his brother served in Vietnam, and his son is a Marine who has served in Iraq and Afghanistan. He said he is grateful for the service of veterans, and called any offense "unintentional and regrettable."

NEW YORK (AP)—For her next book tour, Sarah Palin will again skip some of the nation's biggest cities.

But no traveling by bus this time. It's airplanes all the way.

HarperCollins announced Wednesday that the former Republican vice presidential candidate and Alaska governor will be on the road from Nov. 23 to Dec. 3, with a break for Thanksgiving, to

promote "American by Heart," subtitled "Reflections on Family, Faith, and Flag." The book, coming out Nov. 23, is her first since the million-selling memoir "Going Rogue."

Palin, 46, will be joined by her husband, Todd, and other family members. As with "Going Rogue," she will not make appearances in New York, Los Angeles, Seattle, San Francisco

or other cities where Democrats are more in favor. She will spend little time on either coast, sticking mostly to the South, Southwest and Midwest.

The tour begins at a Barnes & Noble in Phoenix, in the home state of her 2008 running mate, Sen. John McCain. Other stops include Dillons Marketplace in Andover, Kan.; a Sam's Club in Little Rock, Ark.; and a Costco in Brentwood, Tenn. Palin will finish at a Books-A-Million in Columbia, S.C.



Palin

New 'Call of Duty' blasts last year's sales record

NEW YORK (AP)—"Call of Duty: Black Ops" blasted entertainment records this week by raking in \$360 million in its first 24 hours on sale, a dramatic and lucrative indication that video games have cemented their place as mainstream entertainment on a par with movies, books and music.

For the hordes of devoted fans who waited at midnight Monday to get their hands on the military shooter, this is hardly a surprise. For them, popping the new "Call of Duty" into a game console is the equivalent of turning on the TV to watch the Super Bowl or sitting back with a tub of popcorn to watch the latest blockbuster movie.

But while movies happen at you, video games allow the user to affect the story's outcome. That hands-on experience and interactions with other players fit the emerging social-media era where consumers demand a voice in whatever they do.

Across two years, with a budget well in the tens of millions of dollars, the developers of "Black Ops" created a world

that immerses players in Cold War-era battles with settings ranging from 1960s Cuba to Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

Its intricate graphics and details—down to the gruesome sound a knife makes when pulled from an enemy's neck—are amplified in players' homes through big-screen TV sets and powerful speakers.

In one mission, which takes place with John F. Kennedy in the White House before the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion and the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, players must shoot their way through Havana to assassinate a young Fidel Castro.

Cuba state-run media has leveled harsh criticism at the game, calling it "doubly perverse" by glorifying assassination and stimulating "sociopathic attitudes in North American children and adolescents."

"What the United States couldn't accomplish in more than 50 years, they are now trying to do virtually," said an article on Cubadebate, a state-run news website.

Though game developers see

their creations as art, not everyone agrees. Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments over a California law that seeks to ban the sale of ultra-violent video games to minors. Parents' groups and politicians say games should be regulated like firearms and tobacco rather than like books and movies, which are protected by the First Amendment. A ruling is expected next year.

Many liken these games to movies—and it's an apt comparison. Along with the hyper-realistic cinematic scenery and surprise plot twists, there are well-known actors—including Gary Oldman, Ed Harris and Sam Worthington—lending their voices to the game's main characters. Also, the motion-capture technology used to track actors' bodies is the same that was used in "Avatar."

Activision Blizzard Inc. sold 5.6 million units the day "Call of Duty" went on sale, according to the company. Its predecessor, "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2," sold 4.7 million copies in 24 hours to reap \$310 million on its first day of sale last year. Within a week, it made \$550 million.

NY Times to publish best-seller lists of e-books

NEW YORK (AP)—E-books have reached another milestone: their own best-seller lists in The New York Times.

The Times, whose best-seller lists have long been a benchmark for success among authors, announced Wednesday that in early 2011 it will

begin publishing rankings for fiction and nonfiction e-books.

The digital market has grown rapidly in the past three years, starting with Amazon.com's Kindle reader and continuing with Apple's iPad and Barnes & Noble's Nook.

Dispute over cooking dinner is threatening to boil over

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for a year and I am concerned about one issue. Dinner is a constant source of contention. Although my husband and I work full time, I enjoy coming home and preparing a home-cooked meal for him. He views this as too fancy and too expensive.

We are financially comfortable and our grocery bill is modest. It frustrates me that he doesn't appreciate the thought and effort I put into our dinner. That's the way I was raised.

My husband would die happy eating frozen pizza and salad out of a bag every night! That may be fine for some people, but I prefer to eat better than that. Any suggestions?

LIKES TO COOK IN ST. LOUIS



Dear Abby

DEAR LIKES TO COOK: Your husband may be happy eating frozen pizza and salad out of a bag every night, but he'll live a longer, healthier life if he varies his diet. Rather than seeking approval or gratitude for preparing those home-cooked dinners, explain to him that putting healthy, balanced meals on the table for you both to enjoy brings you pleasure and is a way for you to unwind after the workday. It's not "too fancy," and the money is well spent.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 20 years died recently. I was hospitalized a few months later and nearly died myself.

I needed help at home as I have three young children. My brother's wife offered to help. I had dated her many years ago when we were kids and I was attracted to her then. As time has gone on, we have become very close and the sparks have been reignited. I feel terrible, but at the same time I have always had feelings for her.

She told me she and my brother haven't been getting along and she is no longer attracted to him. I like her a lot, but I love my brother, too. What should I do?

BROTHERLY LOVE ON THE WEST COAST

DEAR BROTHERLY LOVE: What you should do is thank your sister-in-law for her help, and hire someone to take care of your children. That's what you should have done in the first place. Then join a singles group and put out the word that you would like to meet someone. I guarantee you won't be lonely long. And it will give your brother and sister-in-law a chance to work out their difficulties, which is the honorable thing to do.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Over the years I have been the organizer who has hosted multiple parties for friends and family. When someone is having a milestone birthday or other event, I am always the one who plans a celebration to make it a memorable occasion. This requires effort, but I love seeing the joy people get from these events.

I will be turning 50 soon. Just once, I would like to be the recipient of a party. I know it's unlikely that my friends will throw a surprise birthday party for me. Or if they do, it will be something small and last-minute.

I am beginning to dread my birthday because I feel my resentment building. Should I plan my own party or just hope for the best and see what happens? Any other suggestions?

ALWAYS THE HOSTESS, NEVER THE PARTY GIRL

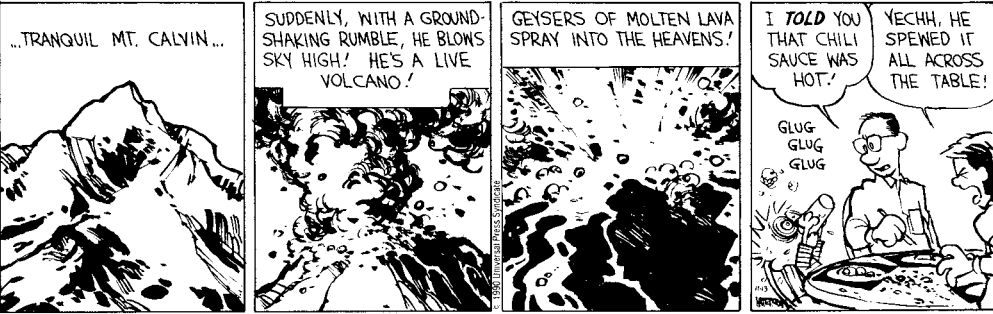
DEAR ALWAYS THE HOSTESS: The surest way to get the message across is to communicate it to some of your closest friends. And if none of them volunteer to host a party for you, then either plan your own—or arrange to spend the money you would have spent on the party treating yourself to a day of pampering at a spa or a short vacation. You deserve it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

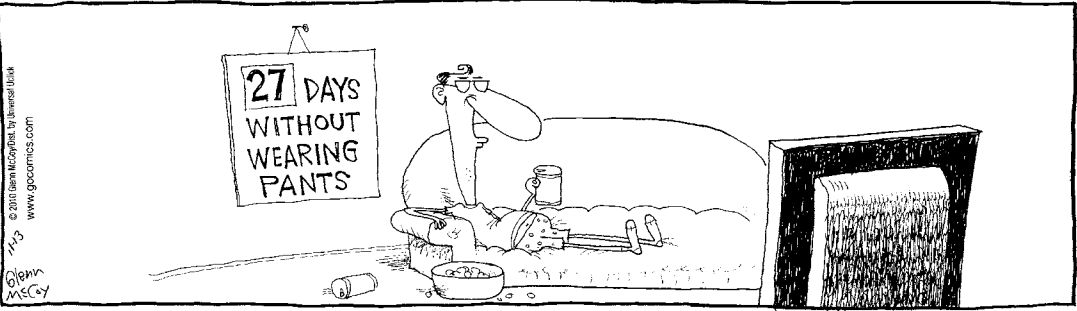
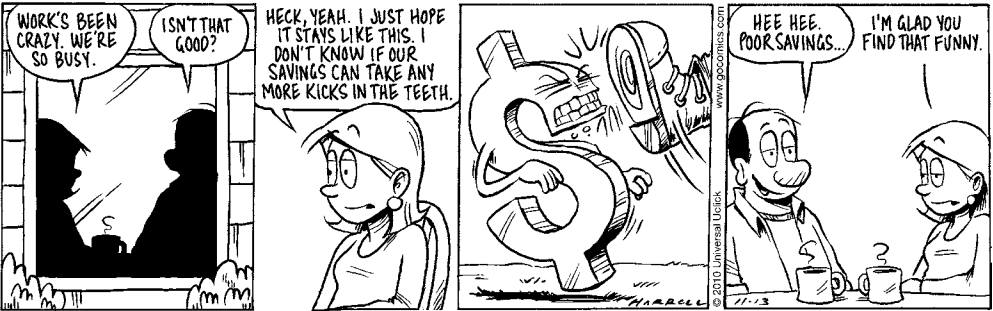


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

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6 Spoil via ineptitude

12 Insight

13 Spain + Portugal

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15 Mountain ash trees

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17 Study all night

19 Born

20 Appointment

22 Awful

24 Kramden's carrier

27 Figure skating jump

29 Gush forth

32 1968 Aviation Hall of Fame inductee

35 "Serpico" author Peter

36 Crow's-nest cry

37 Airline to Oslo

38 Pigen

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57 Memory methods

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4 HDTV brand

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10 Queue

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23 Bonfire residue

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31 Lbs., ozs., etc.

33 WWII craft

34 Vitamin amt.

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43 Film industry

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Yesterday's answer 11-13

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gerard Butler, 41; Whoopi Goldberg, 55; Chris Noth, 56; Joe Mantegna, 63

Happy Birthday: Emotional problems with friends, neighbors or relatives will cloud your vision. You must separate yourself from anyone or anything that stands in the way of your progress. Don't let your emotions play games with you. Base any decisions on facts, figures and the knowledge you have obtained. To react instead of respond will be your downfall. Your numbers are 6, 11, 21, 28, 32, 36, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can enhance your current relationship or meet a new love interest, if you are single. A chance to partner with someone who will complement what you have to offer will lead to an unusual opportunity. Purchases and investments will go in your favor. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't bother asking for favors. Do your own thing and take care of your own business. A partnership will take an unusual turn but you come out on top. Advancement can be yours. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your intuition will not lead you astray where your career and personal life are concerned. Love will play a particularly interesting role in a choice you have to make regarding your living arrangements and your vocation. Someone you respect will give you greater insight. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A trip, taking a course, attending a conference or getting away with someone you love will all lead to an interesting scenario regarding

your home, work and lifestyle. There is room for improvement and the opportunity to build your confidence. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make changes to your home that will make you comfortable or better-equipped to take on the challenges you have ahead of you. Anything worth doing is worth doing the right way the first time around. Love, commitment and a better home life can be obtained with a couple of changes. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will come up against argumentative people. Working as a team player will help you keep things under control. A creative approach to your health and well-being will bring good results. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take part in community events or enjoy a shopping extravaganza. You will find special gifts for the people you love. You will realize how much you care for someone in your life. Speak from the heart and you will be heard. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't believe everything you hear but do take it into consideration when making a personal decision. Explore what's being offered. Professional and personal opportunities are apparent. Use your imagination. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Knowledge reigns supreme when it comes to reaching your goals, getting ahead or winning a race. Your determination and drive, coupled with your ability to charm everyone around you, will help you find your way to the top. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't put pressure on anyone or you will face more than you bargained for. You have to ease into whatever situation you face. Working on an idea or project that needs developing will bring the highest returns. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotions will be hard to control. Keep your thoughts and feelings out in the open so you aren't accused of withholding information or fibbing. A relationship that has money issues can be sorted out if you talk matters through. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A chance to work toward a long-term goal will bring you great satisfaction. A problem with someone in a position of power is likely. Opportunity knocks and you must take advantage, even if it means there is no turning back. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You thrive on change and act on impulse. You are creative, inventive, persistent, mysterious and you thrive on challenges.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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| | | | | 9 | | | 6 | | | |
| | | | | | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8 | | |
| | | | 5 | | | 7 | | | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/13

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 1 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 4 |
| 7 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 9 |
| 5 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 7 |
| 8 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 2 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/12

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE ASIAN GAMES Solution: 11 letters

C K T E K C I R C H S A U Q S
E O A R A S A M I H S O R I H
R K M B A S K E T B A L L N O
E G A P A D I V I N G V I D O
M N Y R E D I A E V E N T I T
O A E M A T D T D R C E P A I
N B K E N T I I I H F L O G N
I A C D S A E T E O S E M A G
E K O A E I S O O G N I X O B
S T H L A L N T L R U G B Y O
G N I J I E B N I Y S K U K W
H G O L D A R A E C M H S O L
O G N I L C Y C T T S P A T I
S G A L F L I C N U O C I A N
T R O P S W R O W I N G L C G

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Asiad, Bangkok, Basketball, Beijing, Bowling, Boxing, Ceremonies, Competitors, Council, Cricket, Cycling, Diving, Event, Flags, Football, Games, Gold, Golf, Gymnastics, Hiroshima, Hockey, Host, Incheon, India, Kabaddi, Karate, Medal, Olympic, Rowing, Rugby, Sail, Shooting, Silver, Sport, Squash, Table, Tennis, Tokyo, Tradition, Wushu

Yesterday's Answer: Adaptation

The NEW Treasury 9 can be ordered by sending check or money order for \$10.95 each plus \$3.75 postage and handling each \$14.20 total each U.S. funds only for the first volume, \$1.50 plus for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1530 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64108 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6486. Order online at upuzzles.com, contains 130 puzzles, 33 of which are the larger 20 x 20 size.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



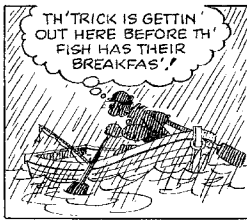
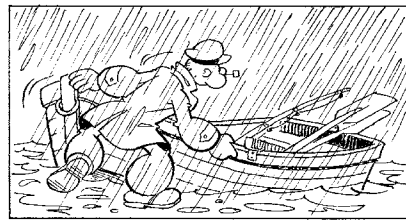
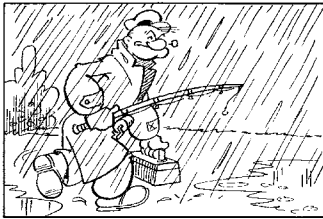
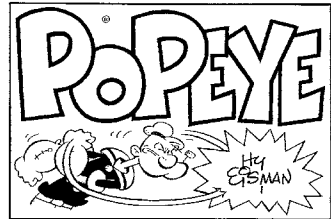
Differences: 1. Dress has no polka dots. 2. Palm leaves are missing. 3. Dress collar is black. 4. Man has no glasses. 5. Chef's apron bib is gone. 6. Bread basket is missing.

Wishing Well®

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| L | V | A | B | A | C | I | C | B | S | O | E | S |
| 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 |
| C | I | I | E | O | C | M | D | R | T | N | F | I |
| 2 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| P | E | E | O | S | D | T | W | R | C | I | L | D |
| 5 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 4 |
| O | T | I | H | Y | L | I | V | S | E | F | I | R |
| 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 8 | 4 |
| T | I | E | H | E | N | F | G | A | E | D | P | N |
| 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 8 |
| E | N | O | A | N | E | I | N | G | D | T | S | E |
| 6 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 8 |
| A | N | R | E | D | L | E | S | Y | R | N | E | T |

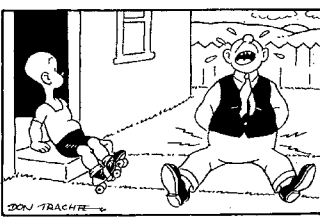
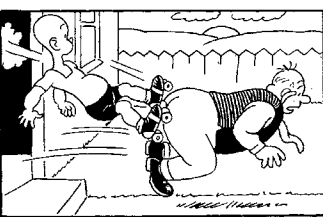
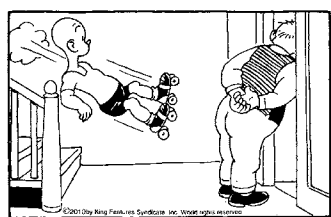
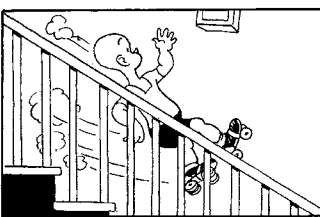
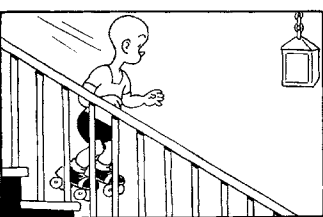
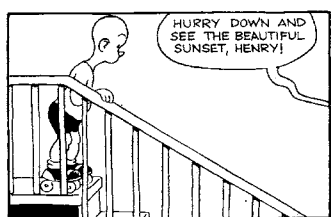
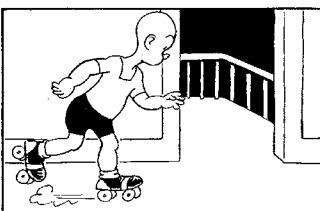
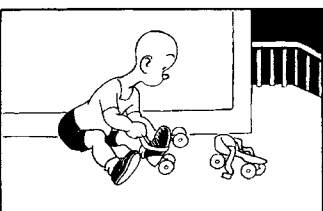
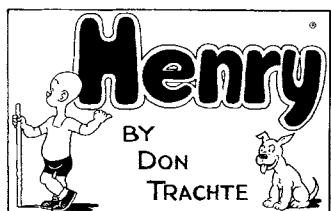
HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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They'll Do It Every Time

by Al Scaduto



Super Crossword END ZONE

ACROSS

- 1 Trails
- 5 Strike-breaker
- 9 Burst of energy
- 14 "Lonesome George"
- 19 Gulf country
- 20 Unwind a rind
- 21 Actress Shire
- 22 Nose
- 23 Vittle statistics?
- 24 Movie mutt
- 25 Speaker of remark
- 27 Alarm
- 29 Mrs. Zeus
- 31 XXVII x II
- 32 Sleep stage
- 33 Contralto Stevens
- 35 Rampur royalty
- 39 Soho snack
- 41 Diocese
- 42 Start of a remark
- 49 Hair ball?
- 50 Former nation: abbr.
- 51 D-Day code name
- 52 Gilbert of "Roseanne"
- 55 Game division
- 58 Massachusetts city

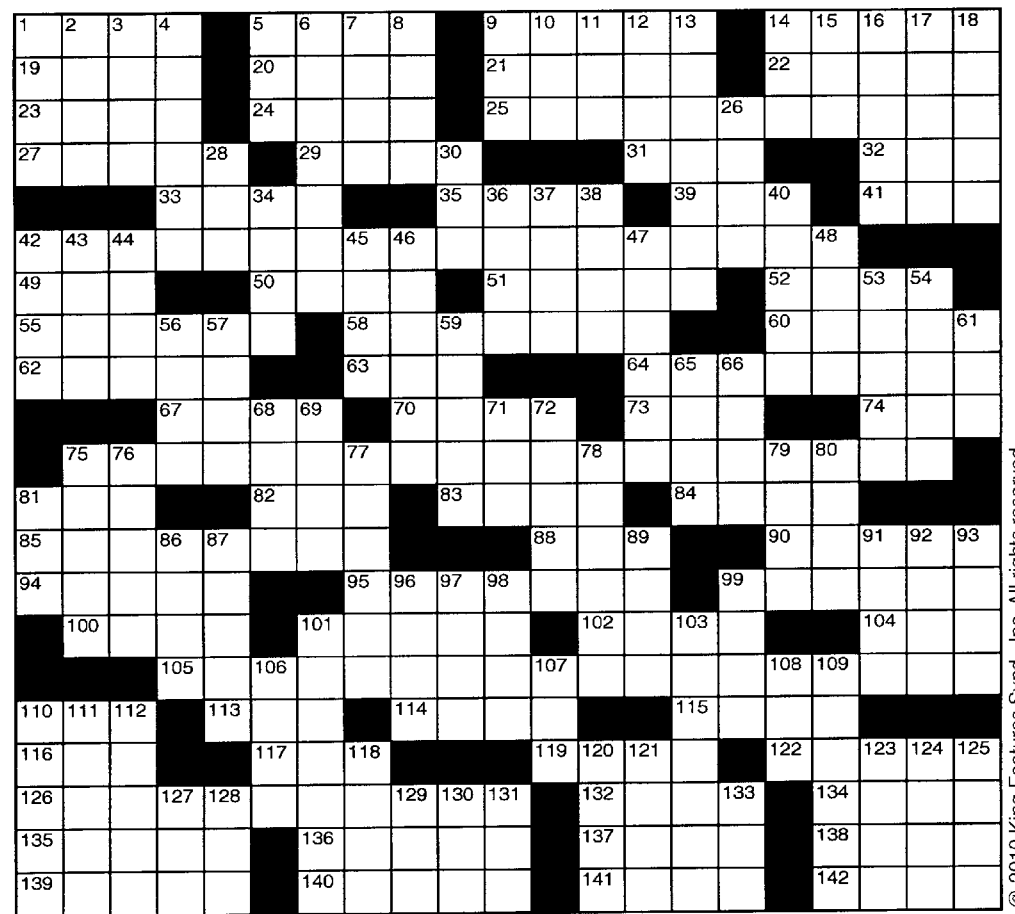
- 60 Paint pigment
- 62 Author Irving
- 63 Fluffy female
- 64 September birthstone
- 67 They may be saturated
- 70 Add fringe
- 73 Remsen or Flatow
- 74 Cambodia's Lon —
- 75 Part 2 of remark
- 81 Fire
- 82 — Dhahi
- 83 Oomph
- 84 Floor model
- 85 Flatter
- 88 A mean Amin
- 90 Stiller's partner
- 94 Be nosy
- 95 Null and void
- 99 Impasse
- 100 Basilica area
- 101 Make some dough
- 102 Jet-setter's need
- 104 Onassis' nickname
- 105 Part 3 of remark
- 110 Sosa stat
- 113 Swell place?
- 114 Moment of

- truth
- 115 — do-well
- 116 Browning's bedtime?
- 117 Pipe cleaner?
- 119 Manipulates
- 122 In shock
- 126 End of remark
- 132 Word with steak or soda
- 134 Marseilles mother
- 135 Adhesive ingredient
- 136 Viewpoint
- 137 Hunky-dory
- 138 Key
- 139 Rob of "Silk Stalkings"
- 140 Sorcery
- 141 Lacquered metalware
- 142 Footfall

- woman
- 10 Norm
- 11 Einstein's birthplace
- 12 100 dinars
- 13 "Bewitched" kid
- 14 Actress Rita
- 15 Planet, for one
- 16 Transvaal residents
- 17 Roast host
- 18 Delibes opera
- 26 Done
- 28 Org. founded in 1947
- 30 Eyebrow shape
- 34 Cozy
- 36 Sailor's shout
- 37 "Nautilus" captain
- 38 Author
- 40 Moral man?
- 42 Wading bird
- 43 "Candid Camera" creator
- 44 — Domini
- 45 '68 US Open winner
- 46 Mason's tool
- 47 Proposition
- 48 Apiece
- 53 Endangered animal
- 54 TV's "Broken —"

- 56 Facts, for short
- 57 Spruce
- 59 Sill
- 61 Sniggler's quarry
- 65 Parched
- 66 Sheet of stamps
- 68 It'll give you a lift
- 69 "Elephant Boy" actor
- 71 Guy's counterpart
- 72 Monitor message
- 75 Animals
- 76 Successful
- 77 "High Sierra"
- 81 "Nash Bridges" network
- 86 Reggae's Peter
- 87 Dual-use items?
- 89 "What — for Love" ('75 song)
- 91 Slightly open
- 92 Exceptional
- 93 Surrounded by
- 96 Neither

- masc. nor fem.
- 97 Crooner Jerry
- 98 Slaps on
- 99 Shoestring
- 101 Persian poet
- 103 Fleshly
- 106 Push a product
- 107 A/C measure
- 108 Spear-headed
- 109 Porthos' pal
- 110 Appomattox signature
- 111 Freeway sounds
- 112 Gold brick?
- 118 Author Ferber
- 120 "Braveheart" extra
- 121 Nevada city
- 123 Gusto
- 124 — Stanley Gardner
- 125 Profound
- 127 Viking weapon
- 128 Fleur-de —
- 129 Souffle ingredient
- 130 Actress
- 131 Cal. page
- 133 "Toodle-oo!"



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Christian Science Church?

- 5. FAMOUS PERSONALITIES: William H. Bonney was better known by what name?
- 6. HUMAN ANATOMY: Where is the mitral valve located?
- 7. LANGUAGE: In the United

- States, what is a more common term for "conscription"?
- 8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What was the original function of the schipperke, a Belgian dog breed?
- 9. U.S. STATES: What is the capi-

- tal of Michigan?
- 10. HISTORY: In English history, which monarch did Cavaliers support?

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- 10. King Charles I in the English Civil War
- 9. Lansing
- 8. Barge watchdogs
- 7. The draft, a requirement that people of certain age serve in the military.

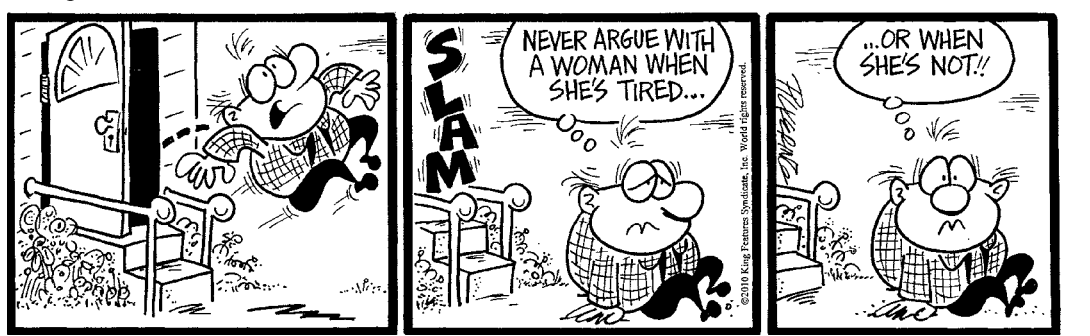
- 2. Northern England and southern Scotland
- 3. Bees, wasps and ants
- 4. Mary Baker Eddy
- 5. Billy the Kid
- 6. The heart

Answers



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

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|------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
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| • 5-Liner | \$24 | \$39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | \$24 | \$42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | \$36 | \$57 |

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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\$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)
Some conditions may apply

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FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

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FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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WHATZIT Solution: Blind date

Angamwas rules 4-person

Saipan Tribune Sports

28 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2009

25

There's nothing Super about the Pittsburgh Steelers anymore.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15, 2009

Fitial eyes Cepeda's re-appointment to NMC board. DPH to ask for extension of emergency declaration.

\$1.35M earmarks for NMI now up for Obama

By HAIDE V. EUGENIO
haidev_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The fate of the \$1.35 million in CNMI special projects funding requested by Del-

legate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) now rests with President Obama, after the conference report on the omnibus Fiscal Year 2010 spending bill cleared the U.S. Senate on Sunday.

Sablan's request for \$1.35 million to fund seven programs and projects is contained in the Conference Report on Fiscal Year 2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act, a \$447-billion spending measure for

Fitial: Ombudsman shouldn't accommodate 'overstayers'

10 DAYS to go before Christmas

OPINION METER

This week's poll: Should NMC revisit its policy of allowing the termination of NMC employees without cause?

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WHATZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

APR L F RST

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in this section

Nuggets rally to hand Lakers first loss



DENVER (AP)—Carmelo Anthony had 32 points and 13 rebounds to rally the Denver Nuggets past Los Angeles 118-112 on Thursday night, handing the Lakers their first loss of the season.

Kobe Bryant scored a season-high 34 points and Pau Gasol had 17 points and 20 rebounds for the Lakers, who were trying to win their first nine games for the first time since the 1997-98 season.

Bryant came in needing 17 points to reach 26,000 for his career. He hit the milestone with a 13-foot jumper 49 seconds into the third quarter.

Nene had 18 points and Ty Lawson scored 17 for the Nuggets, who snapped a two-game skid.

Down 105-103, the Nuggets took over. A 3-pointer by J.R. Smith and two baskets by Anthony sparked an 11-0 run that gave Denver the lead for good.

Los Angeles was leading by 10 early in the fourth when the Nuggets rallied behind Lawson. The speedy point guard scored 11 points in a 16-0 run that gave them a 101-95 lead.

Shannon Brown's putback dunk and 3-pointer keyed an 8-0 Lakers spurt that gave the two-time defending NBA champions a 103-101 lead.

The Lakers led by five at halftime but opened a 14-point lead with a 13-2 surge to start the third quarter. Derek Fisher hit a 3-pointer and Bryant scored six quick points to spark the run.

The Nuggets made a run of



AP
Denver Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony goes up for a layup in the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Los Angeles Lakers in Denver on Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010.

their own and cut the lead to 79-74 on Al Harrington's 3-pointer. Bryant answered right back with two of his own to push the lead to 85-76 with 4:20 left in the third.

Smith's three-point play got Denver within 89-85 late in the third, but Anthony was called for a loose-ball foul and a technical on Los Angeles' next possession. Bryant hit the free throw and Brown nailed a 3-pointer to give the Lakers a 93-85 lead heading into the fourth.

Bryant struggled from the field in the first half, shooting 4 of 14 for 13 points. He was 11 for 32 for the game.

The teams traded leads throughout the first half. The Lakers finished the second quarter on a 9-4 run to take a 64-59 lead at the break.

Celtics 112, Heat 107

At Miami, the Boston Celtics led throughout in a win over Miami, beating the Heat for the second time this NBA season and handing them a second straight home loss.

Ray Allen hit his first seven 3-point tries and finished with 35 points, while Paul Pierce added 25 for Boston, which has won 13 of the last 14 regular-season meetings in addition to eliminating Miami in the opening round of last season's playoffs.

Boston led by as much as 20 points. The Heat got within three points with 13 seconds left, but Allen hit two free throws to seal it.

Miami's LeBron James finished with 35 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists, narrowly missing his second straight

Rockets' Yao Ming sidelined with sprained ankle

HOUSTON (AP)—Rockets center Yao Ming has a mild left ankle sprain and is expected to be out at least a week.

Yao was injured in the first quarter of Houston's 98-91 loss to the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night. An MRI taken Thursday in Indianapolis confirmed the injury. Yao will return to Houston to begin rehabilitation while the team finishes its road trip.

The Rockets have been closely monitoring Yao's minutes this season in his return after sitting out all of last season following surgery to repair his broken left foot.

Yao, a seven-time All-Star, is averaging 10.2 points and 5.8 rebounds while averaging 18.2 minutes a game for the struggling Rockets, who are 1-6.

triple-double.

Bulls 120, Warriors 90

In Chicago, the hosts dashed to a 30-point lead in the first half and cruised through the second for a big win over Golden State.

Luol Deng scored 26 points while Derrick Rose had 22 points and 13 assists for his third double-double of the season. He finished one assist shy of his career best, which he's increased twice already this season.

Monta Ellis had 24 points to lead the Warriors, who were playing without injured forward David Lee.

Woods shoots 72, drops 9 strokes back in Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Tiger Woods fought his new swing in a strong wind Friday and struggled to a 1-over 72, leaving him nine shots behind Adam Bland going into the weekend in the Australian Masters.

Even in his return Down Under, the defending champion is in the familiar spot of trying to catch up.

The surprise in blustery conditions at Victoria Golf Club came from Bland, who

rallied from a poor start with a strong finish for a 67 that put him at 10-under 132. Another surprise came from Woods.

One day after so many crisp shots, he missed far too many greens for the way he is putting and couldn't save par. Woods fell off the pace with a sloppy short iron into a bunker on the fifth and a pedestrian chip from behind the seventh green. And he made consecutive bogeys on the back nine to fall further behind.

"I wasn't quite as sharp with my irons," Woods said.

Bland had a two-shot lead

over former Las Vegas winner Andre Stolz, who also had a 67 in the windy afternoon. Daniel Gaunt had a 72 and was alone in third place at 5-under 137, five shots behind.

The smile returned for Sergio Garcia, in his third tournament since a two-month break from golf to clear his head. The Spaniard easily handled the strong wind for a 6-under 65, his best score of the year, that put him back into the mix in Melbourne.

"I'm just trying to shoot the best score I can," Garcia said.

Woods was only three shots when he finally teed off under a gray sky and wind that topped 20 mph. He played the 257-yard opening hole just as he wanted, into a bunker and out to tap-in range for birdie. And while he saved par on the third, he missed his target some 20 yards to the right, a sign of things to come.

It was the strongest wind he has faced since the opening hour at the Ryder Cup, only this lasted four hours. Woods

found himself reverted to some old swing habits, and it wasn't pretty.

"When the wind blows this hard, I tend to revert back to my old motion," Woods said. "I struggled with that. It was a little more difficult than I thought it would be."

The Australian Masters is the last time this year Woods is defending a title, and he hasn't come remotely close in the others.

Stuart Appleby, not listed among the top players in tournament advertising, had a 69 and was in the group at 2-under 140. Camilo Villegas shot a 70 was tied with Woods, while Geoff Ogilvy birdied the last two holes for a 70 that brought him back to even par.

Robert Allenby had a 72, which at least was good enough to make the cut.

Garcia was right around the cutline when he teed off after opening with a 73, and he did hardly anything wrong. What helped, as it always does with the 30-year-old Spaniard, was making his share of putts.

Garcia made birdie on all the



AP
Tiger Woods from the United States watches his ball after teeing off during his second round of the Australian Masters at Victoria Golf Club in Melbourne, Australia, Friday, Nov. 12, 2010.

par 5s, picked up a surprise birdie on the third with a long putt from off the green, and finished with a wedge that settled 8 feet behind the hole and a fist pump when it dropped for birdie on the ninth.

He was not about to declare


himself back to full form after one round, but it was encouraging.

"Even though it was quite difficult with the conditions, it seemed like we were always making the right decisions," Garcia said. "Put that with how

I was hitting the ball ... to be honest with you, that wasn't the lowest score I could have shot."

His biggest opponent figured to be the forecast. It began raining just as Woods finished, and heavy rain is expected for Saturday.

White's 33-yard TD gives Falcons 26-21 victory

 ATLANTA (AP)—If this was a Super Bowl pre-view, that's going to be quite a game in Big D.

Roddy White hauled in a 33-yard touchdown pass from Matt Ryan with 20 seconds remaining and the Atlanta Falcons, after squandering a 13-point lead in the fourth quarter, rallied to beat the Baltimore Ravens 26-21 on Thursday in a prime-time matchup between two of the NFL's top teams.

"If you like football, like intense football, that was it," said Falcons coach Mike Smith, a former Ravens assistant. "That might have been the most the intense game I've ever been involved with at any level of football."

With commissioner Roger Goodell looking on, just adding to the big-game feel, the Falcons (7-2) appeared to be control after Ryan went to White for a 4-yard touchdown with 11:34 remaining to make it 20-7. Curiously, Smith didn't attempt a 2-point conversion, which nearly came back to bite him.

After barely touching the ball in the first half, Baltimore (6-3) rallied behind Joe Flacco's two fourth-quarter TD passes, the second of them a 9-yarder to Todd Heap with 1:05 left.

Back came the Falcons, who improved to 18-1 at home with Ryan as the starter. He needed less than a minute to pull off an 80-yard drive, hooking up with Michael Jenkins on a huge third-down pass along the sideline before going back to his favorite receiver for the winner.

Ryan rolled to his left to get away from the pressure, and White shoved off Josh Wilson with his right hand to get free, sending the cornerback tumbling to the turf. Ryan delivered the ball perfectly, White caught it with no one around and cruised into the end zone.

Wilson hopped up, screaming for a penalty. But the official kept the yellow flag in his back pocket and held up both arms. Touchdown.

White knew he got away with one. "Yeah, you've got to do whatever you've got to do to win," he said. "I'm going to leave it up to the referee."

White came into the game listed



Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Roddy White (84) celebrates with quarterback back Matt Ryan after White's touchdown in the final minute of an NFL football game against the Baltimore Ravens on Thursday, Nov. 11, 2010, in Atlanta.

as questionable after hurting his right knee in last Sunday's win over Tampa Bay and practicing only once during the short week. But he danced out of the tunnel during the pregame introductions with a big smile and clearly wasn't bothered.

He finished with 12 catches for 138

yards. Ryan threw a career-high 50 passes, completing 32 of them for 316 yards and three touchdowns.

"After they scored, we were on the sideline. We just looked at each other and smiled, man," White said. "We just relish moments like this. We knew we were going to go down there and get

what we needed to win this game."

Flacco, coming back from a sluggish start, was 22 of 34 for 215 yards and three touchdowns, too.

"It was crazy," he said. "You think it's your game. You think it's over."

The Falcons dominated the first half, holding the ball for more than 21 min-

utes and going to the locker room with a 10-0 lead. The Ravens were fortunate it wasn't worse.

Late in the first quarter, Ryan started a drive that would stretch into the second period and wind up covering 91 yards on 14 plays. He finished it with a short pass to a wide-open Jason Snelling out of the backfield. He worked up a head of steam, broke free from an attempted tackle by Dawan Landry and tumbled into the end zone for a 28-yard touchdown.

Atlanta got close again just before halftime, but wound up settling for Matt Bryant's 28-yard field goal.

Ryan completed 20 of 28 for 160 yards in the opening half, playing keep-away with the Ravens offense. Flacco had just 31 yards passing at the break, and the third quarter didn't start out very well, either. Trying to stretch the field with a pass to T.J. Houshmandzadeh, Flacco threw it a little short and Brent Grimes made the interception.

That resulted in another field goal by Bryant, this one from 51 yards.

Baltimore's offense finally got going on its next possession. Flacco directed a 10-play, 65-yard drive that ended with Anquan Boldin grabbing a 5-yard touchdown pass.

Just like that, it was a game—what everyone expected all along from these teams.

White's first touchdown catch restored the 13-point lead, but Flacco wasn't done in this matchup of quarterbacks who were first-round picks in 2008 and have followed eerily similar career paths.

The Ravens marched down the field on a 75-yard drive, Flacco finishing it off with a 6-yard pass to Derrick Mason. After the ensuing kickoff, the Falcons picked up one first down but had to punt it away.

Flacco took his team the other way, completing five passes on a 72-yard drive that put the Ravens ahead for the first time all night.

There were just 65 seconds remaining, but that was enough time for Ryan and White.

The Ravens can only hope they get another shot at the Falcons in Dallas on that first Sunday in February.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|--------------|---|---|------|-------|
| Boston | 7 | 2 | .778 | — |
| New Jersey | 3 | 5 | .375 | 3 1/2 |
| New York | 3 | 5 | .375 | 3 1/2 |
| Philadelphia | 2 | 6 | .250 | 4 1/2 |
| Toronto | 1 | 7 | .125 | 5 1/2 |

Southeast Division

| | | | | |
|------------|---|---|------|-------|
| Orlando | 5 | 2 | .714 | — |
| Atlanta | 6 | 3 | .667 | — |
| Miami | 5 | 4 | .556 | 1 |
| Washington | 2 | 4 | .333 | 2 1/2 |
| Charlotte | 2 | 6 | .250 | 3 1/2 |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|------|-------|
| Chicago | 4 | 3 | .571 | — |
| Cleveland | 4 | 4 | .500 | 1/2 |
| Indiana | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 4 | 5 | .444 | 1 |
| Detroit | 2 | 6 | .250 | 2 1/2 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

| | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|-------|---|
| New Orleans | 7 | 0 | 1.000 | — |
| San Antonio | 6 | 1 | .857 | 1 |
| Dallas | 5 | 2 | .714 | 2 |
| Memphis | 4 | 5 | .444 | 4 |
| Houston | 1 | 6 | .143 | 6 |

Northwest Division

| | | | | |
|----------|---|---|------|---|
| Portland | 6 | 3 | .667 | — |
|----------|---|---|------|---|

Utah

5

3

.625

1/2

Oklahoma City

4

3

.571

1

Denver

5

4

.556

1

Minnesota

2

7

.222

4

Pacific Division

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|------|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 8 | 1 | .889 | — |
| Golden State | 6 | 3 | .667 | 2 |
| Phoenix | 3 | 4 | .429 | 4 |
| Sacramento | 3 | 4 | .429 | 4 |
| L.A. Clippers | 1 | 8 | .111 | 7 |

Yesterday's Games

Chicago 120, Golden State 90

Boston 112, Miami 107

Denver 118, L.A. Lakers 112

AUSTRALIAN MASTERS SCORES

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Results Thursday from the \$1.5 million Australian Masters at the 6,886-yard, par-71 Victoria Golf Club:

FIRST ROUND

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Adam Bland, Australia | 34-31 | —65 |
| Alistair Presnell, Australia | 31-34 | —65 |
| Daniel Gaunt, Australia | 32-33 | —65 |
| Andre Stolz, Australia | 34-33 | —67 |
| Gareth Paddison, New Zealand | 31-36 | —67 |
| Craig Hasthorpe, Australia | 34-33 | —67 |
| Luke Bleumink, Australia | 34-33 | —67 |
| Steve Collins, Australia | 35-32 | —67 |
| Matthew Millar, Australia | 35-32 | —67 |
| Kurt Barnes, Australia | 35-32 | —67 |
| Mitchell Brown, Australia | 34-34 | —68 |

Michael Hendry, New Zealand

35-33 —68 || Daniel Fox, Australia | 34-34 | —68 |
| Greg Chalmers, Australia | 34-34 | —68 |
| Brad Kennedy, Australia | 33-35 | —68 |
| Nathan Green, Australia | 32-36 | —68 |
| Josh Geary, New Zealand | 36-33 | —69 |
| Jim Herman, United States | 33-36 | —69 |
| Ewan Porter, Australia | 35-34 | —69 |
| Kieran Pratt, Australia | 34-35 | —69 |
| Tiger Woods, United States | 33-36 | —69 |
| Luke Hickmott, Australia | 34-35 | —69 |
| Jarrold Lyle, Australia | 34-35 | —69 |
| Scott Arnold, Australia | 33-36 | —69 |
| Josh Carmichael, New Zealand | 31-38 | —69 |
| Peter O'Malley, Australia | 37-32 | —69 |
| Taylor Cooper, Australia | 37-32 | —69 |
| David Bransdon, Australia | 36-33 | —69 |
| Won Joon Lee, Australia | 34-35 | —69 |
| Michael Wright, Australia | 32-37 | —69 |
| Craig Scott, Australia | 34-36 | —70 |
| Michael Curtain, Australia | 37-33 | —70 |
| Mahal Pearce, New Zealand | 34-36 | —70 |
| Anthony Summers, Australia | 38-32 | —70 |
| Peter Cooke, Australia | 35-35 | —70 |
| Peter Senior, Australia | 34-36 | —70 |
| Michael Campbell, New Zealand | 37-33 | —70 |
| Scott Laycock, Australia | 33-37 | —70 |
| Anthony Brown, Australia | 33-37 | —70 |
| Michael Choi, Australia | 35-35 | —70 |
| Ashley Hall, Australia | 34-37 | —71 |
| Stuart Appleby, Australia | 35-36 | —71 |
| Andrew Bonhomme, Australia | 38-33 | —71 |
| Leigh McKechnie, Australia | 36-35 | —71 |
| Paul Sheehan, Australia | 37-34 | —71 |
| Martin Doyle, Australia | 36-35 | —71 |
| Doug Holloway, New Zealand | 36-35 | —71 |
| Camilo Villegas, Colombia | 36-35 | —71 |

David McKenzie, Australia

34-37 —71 || Adam Crawford, Australia | 32-39 | —71 |
| Steven Jones, Australia | 34-37 | —71 |
| Ryan Haller, Australia | 34-37 | —71 |
| Nathan Uebergang, Australia | 35-36 | —71 |
| Geoff Ogilvy, Australia | 35-37 | —72 |
| Stephen Leaney, Australia | 37-35 | —72 |
| Brett Rumford, Australia | 37-35 | —72 |
| Kim Felton, Australia | 35-37 | —72 |
| Peter Wilson, Australia | 35-37 | —72 |
| Nicholas Piani, Australia | 36-36 | —72 |
| Craig Hancock, Australia | 36-36 | —72 |
| Andrew Tschudin, Australia | 33-39 | —72 |
| Wade Ormsby, Australia | 34-38 | —72 |
| Heath Reed, Australia | 35-37 | —72 |
| Hamish Robertson, New Zealand | 37-35 | —72 |
| Ed Stedman, Australia | 34-38 | —72 |
| Marcus Cain, Australia | 36-36 | —72 |
| Steven Bowditch, Australia | 34-39 | —73 |
| Robert Allenby, Australia | 37-36 | —73 |
| Aaron Townsend, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Henry Epstein, Australia | 37-36 | —73 |
| Steven Jeffress, Australia | 38-35 | —73 |
| Josh Lane, Australia | 38-35 | —73 |
| Brad Lamb, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Michael Sim, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Sergio Garcia, Spain | 37-36 | —73 |
| Paul Gow, Australia | 37-36 | —73 |
| Terry Pilkadaris, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Ben Wharton, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Brad McIntosh, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Rudi Bezuidenhout, Australia | 37-36 | —73 |
| Brad Andrews, Australia | 34-39 | —73 |
| Andrew McKenzie, Australia | 39-34 | —73 |
| Peter Welden, Australia | 36-37 | —73 |
| Matt Jager, Australia | 37-37 | —74 |
| Jason Norris, Australia | 38-36 | —74 |

Jim Cusdin, New Zealand

38-36 —74 || Brent McCullough, Australia | 38-36 | —74 |
| Kurt Carlson, Australia | 37-37 | —74 |
| Nick Flanagan, Australia | 37-37 | —74 |
| Michael Long, New Zealand | 37-37 | —74 |
| Gary Simpson, Australia | 35-39 | —74 |
| Josh Younger, Australia | 37-37 | —74 |
| Jason Pavese, Australia | 37-37 | —74 |
| Andrew Kelly, Australia | 35-39 | —74 |
| Adam Wilcox, Australia | 36-38 | —74 |
| Matthew Griffin, Australia | 36-39 | —75 |
| Neven Basic, Australia | 40-35 | —75 |
| Craig Parry, Australia | 34-41 | —75 |
| Peter Fowler, Australia | 38-37 | —75 |
| Clint Rice, Australia | 37-38 | —75 |
| Matthew Ballard, Australia | 38-37 | —75 |
| Chris Gaunt, Australia | 38-38 | —76 |
| Craig Spence, Australia | 36-40 | —76 |
| Richie Caracella, Australia | 40-36 | —76 |
| Stuart Bouvier, Australia | 38-38 | —76 |
| Jamie Arnold, Australia | 36-40 | —76 |
| Terry Price, Australia | 41-36 | —77 |
| Chris Hartas, Australia | 39-38 | —77 |
| Ryan Haywood, Australia | 37-40 | —77 |
| Adam Stephens, Australia | 38-39 | —77 |
| Richard Talsma, Australia | 38-39 | —77 |
| Tim Stewart, Australia | 42-36 | —78 |
| Tigh Van Leeuwen, Australia | 41-37 | —78 |
| a-Jin Jeong, Australia | 37-42 | —79 |
| Brenden Stuart, New Zealand | 39-40 | —79 |
| Andrew Martin, Australia | 35-45 | —80 |
| Do An, South Korea | 41-40 | —81 |
| Michael McGrath, Australia | 45-38 | —83 |
| Jon Abbott, Australia | 43-40 | —83 |
| David Diaz, Australia, disqualified | | |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saipan rooting for a Pacquiao victory



An overwhelming majority of Saipan fans of the sweet science is rooting for Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines to beat Antonio Margarito of Mexico in their much touted fight for the vacant WBC Junior Middleweight Championship belt.

The 31-year-old Pacquiao, who visited Saipan in September 2002, will enter the ring opposite the Tijuana Tornado with a 51-3-2 win-loss-draw (38 by knockout), while Margarito will go for an upset of the boxer-turned-politician after winning 38 of his previous 44 fights with 27 via knockout.

The Pacquiao-Margarito fight will be telecast live at Saipan World Resort this Sunday beginning at 11am courtesy of MCV Broadband and Budweiser.

MCV Broadband manager Mark Birmingham said this is the eighth time they have partnered with the Saipan World Resort to show a Pacquiao fight.

"He has won every one. This event is very popular and well run and we have many good comments about the event each time we have it," he said.

Of the 11 queried on who will prevail in the Pacquiao-Margarito fight, only one predicted a win by the Mexican fighter. Here is how it went:

It is another knock out victory for Congressman Manny Pacquiao. He is not the world No. 1 pound-per-pound boxer for nothing.



Eli Buenaventura
Calvos Insurance manager

I predict Pacquiao will KO Margarito in the fifth round. Though I have usually relished the thought of the underdog beating a favored opponent, Margarito's distasteful dissing of Pacquiao's trainer's handicap is out of line. I predict a vengeful pounding of Margarito at the heavy hands of Pacquiao.



John Blanco
Gorilla Warfare MMA

Manny Pacquiao will win via fifth-round knockout. Manny is just Manny. Enough said. Margarito is bigger, but he's not as quick as Manny. It will be a good fight though, and a big shoutout to all my Mexican friends.



Rezne Wong
2010 Palau Micronesian Games top male athlete

Without a doubt, I am going to cheer on Manny Pacquiao! His critics always say that Manny doesn't have what it takes to face his challenges, but time after time he pulls through for himself and for his country. Pacman has inspired people around the world and he won me over with his grit and determi-



nation. Go get 'em, Manny!

Brad Ruszala
CNMI national football player

Pacquiao will dominate throughout the fight with his speed and power punches. I think Pacman's flurry of punches will knockdown the Tijuana Tornado either in the sixth or seventh round. I've watched Margarito's previous fights and I noticed that although he has power, he is slow and his footwork appears terrible. Margarito threw a lot of punches during his fight with Miguel Cotto. But after the hand-wrapping scandal, Margarito was never the same again as he became hesitant to throw jabs. One good example was his fight with Shane Mosley shortly after the hand-wrapping incident. One thing, however, is sure: It's going to be a hell of a fight.

Ferdie de la Torre
Saipan Tribune reporter

I'm giving this one to Margarito. I'm a Pacquiao fan but given that he's been out of shape and somewhat injured, (according to the media and recent photos) and with the politics and media distracting him, I think this is going to be a tough one for him. As great as he may be, he's mind is just not in the game. But like I said, I'm a Pacquiao fan so



I'm giving this one down the wire. Margarito wins by decision.

James Lee
CNMI national basketball player

Is there anyone on Saipan who is not rooting for Pacquiao? He is the only story in boxing. I couldn't name a heavyweight boxer, let alone the belt holder.



You just have to be impressed of a guy who cannot only compete, but WIN in the so many weight classes.

Although his competitor is bigger and Manny has been playing politics and might not be 110 percent committed to training, I believe he will still win by decision and the fight will go the distance...it will be hard for Manny to knock Margarito out.

However, to insure full disclosure, I am a big tequila fan and I have secured the rights to "Margarito Tequila" if Margarito wins.

Jim Arenovski
Team Manatee member

Both fighters are grinders and both can go the distance, but I'm thinking Manny will win by KO or TKO in the eighth. Margarito will have the "home" crowd cheering for him, which should keep him pumped. Manny will feel the crowd and want to silence them with a strong outing.



Dale Roberts
Ultimate Frisbee player

I pick Manny Pacquiao to win by decision over Margarito.

We all read the tabloids about Manny's training camp and how upset Roach was for not seeing Manny give it 100 percent. However, Pacquiao is a natural athlete and did pick up his training this past few weeks. Margarito is big and strong, but I think Pacquiao will out box and out score him for the win.



Cuki Alvarez
Trench Tech president

It's going to be Pacquiao. I'm not familiar with the other fighter but Pacquiao is at the prime of his skills and he has the mental and physical capacity to be champ for a long time.



Jim Feger
Rocball creator

Accidents of geography shouldn't sway sports allegiances. Just because one lives in Milwaukee you don't have to root for the Braves...or the Athletics if you're from Kansas City. Even so, I think Pacman will trounce the Mexican dude and make him cry like a baby.



Bruce Bateman
MVA marketing manager

LEGISLATURE

From Page 28

randum between the association and the departments of Community and Cultural Affairs, Natural Resources, Education, Public Works, and the Office of the Governor.

However, in the past several years, the Division of Sports and Recreation alone has been maintaining and operat-

ing the facilities in Susupe.

NMASA through White previously expressed its willingness to take over the operation of the Oleai Sports Complex provided enough funding will be available. Then the association's bid to takeover the facilities in Susupe got a shot in the arm when Tebuteb pre-filed in September this year House Bill 17-112, which seeks to amend sections in PL No. 4-66.

Under House Bill 17-112, NMASA will still have the same duty to operate and maintain sports facilities, but only those located at the Oleai Sports Complex, as may be more fully defined in a memorandum executed between NMASA, DCCA, and the Office of the Governor.

Less than a month after the pre-filing of House Bill 17-112, a desk audit suggesting that DCCA transfer the Division

of Sports and Recreation's functions to NMASA came out, boosting NMASA's bid to takeover the sports complex.

White said his draft had some similarities to that of Tebuteb's bill and is based on provisions that created the United States Olympic Committee, which oversees U.S. sports and gets regular funding from the government and the International Olympic Committee.

Unlike most of the Pacific nations, NMASA is not an IOC member and thus could not get funding from the Olympic movement. NMASA also does not get annual funding from the government and is only given financial assistance if a request is made and when CNMI athletes are bound for regional tournaments, such as the Micronesian Games and Pacific Games.

DIVISION

From Page 28

win, scoring four goals. Joel Fruit added one. Vincent They nailed of the two goals for Independents.

The victory was third in six games for Paire Black moving the team from fourth to third place. Paire has tallied 23 goals and gave up 13.

Independents remained winless, drawing two games and losing four to stay in the last spot in the team standings.

Matansa 2, Paire Red 0

In the third game, Matansa downed Paire Red, 2-0.

Matansa drew one goal apiece from Sean Perez and David James Bucayo to beat the second-running Paire Red.

Matansa logged its third win in six games, while Paire Red absorbed its second loss, also in six games.

Division leader MP United (6-0-0) drew a bye in Week 7.

BOYS U18 MP United 3, Paire 1

MP United (6-1-0) and Paire met for the third time this season with the former recording a 3-1 win at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United posted its second victory against Paire and sixth overall to retain the top spot in the boys U18 division. Paire and MP United's second outing resulted in a draw.

Stacy Macaranas, Dae Min Jeon, and Hong Moon Bin contributed one goal each for MP United's cause.

Despite the loss, Paire kept the No. 2 spot in the team standings with its 4-1-2 mark.

In the other boys U18 game, Independents and Matansa had a scoreless draw.

Month awardee defeated Linda Yarobwemal (671) and Diane Chong (641).

Musca and Zapanta are now eligible for the NMASA Male and Female Athlete of the Year awards, which will be given out next year during the NMASA Annual Sports Banquet.

PACQUIAO

From Page 28

sickening human trafficking in his district. His mission: to eradicate all.

"It is also God's mission for me," he said quietly, without the least hint of evangelistic fervor.

It is also a full-time job. As such, Pacquiao said he is in constant communication with staff members who accompanied him to the fight as well as those back home to keep him "updated."

But preparing for a championship fight against Margarito, a former world champion, Pacquiao's boxing staff would argue, must be a full-time endeavor as well.

Trainer Freddie Roach complained when early preparation for Margarito was disrupted daily by politics for a few hours or for a full day to allow Pacquiao to travel from Sarangani to the nation's capital in Manila to meet with President Benigno Aquino III.

After training was moved to Los Angeles, there was further grumbling when promoter Bob Arum asked Pacquiao to spend a late Oc-

tober evening in Las Vegas campaigning among Filipino voters for his friend, U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, who was in a desperate fight for reelection.

"You know Filipinos are a huge voting bloc in Nevada," Arum said. "Manny did it as a personal favor for me and for Harry. The senator will never forget it."

Not to comprehend Roach's annoyance with such frivolity during fight preparation is not to understand the single-minded focus of a football coach before a Super Bowl or a gymnastics coach on the eve of an Olympics. Even one step from the routine is viewed as an unnecessary and unwelcome distraction.

Roach volunteered this week that during the eight weeks of training,

Pacquiao has confessed to missing working in his congressional office. At the same time, Roach said his fighter is 100 percent ready to step into the ring against an opponent who is listed as 41 1/2 inches taller and could outweigh him by as much as 15 pounds when they enter the ring about 28 hours after the weigh-in.

"Manny has spoiled us because

he is usually ready after three weeks of training," said Roach, who grades this training camp experience as a B. "This time it has taken a little longer, but he is ready now."

Pacquiao, who has never weighed more than 147 pounds for a fight, said he planned to bulk up to today's 150-pound weigh-in limit, but could not. He found the extra weight made him feel heavy and sluggish and, most importantly, it affected his speed.

He is counting on that speed to offset the relatively hulking Margarito, who plans to weigh more than 160 on fight night.

"We have some strategy to counter his size," Pacquiao said.

As often happens in a Pacquiao media session that includes a throng of reporters from the Philippines, the subject swung back and forth between boxing and politics.

"What draws people to you?" an inquiring mind wanted to know.

Pacquiao, as he often does, took a moment to think before answering.

"I come from nothing," he said. "I can box. I care. I'm still humble and I'm nice to people."

BOWLERS

From Page 28

best in Game 2 with 206 pinfalls. She logged 185 and 158 in the last two games for an average of 181 pinfalls.

The NMASA Female Athlete of the



Nuggets rally
to hand Lakers
first loss

Page 25

Saipan Tribune Sports

White's 33-yard
TD gives Falcons
26-21 victory

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28 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Division leaders roll past foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Division leaders extended their streak in Week 7 of the 2010 NMIFA Youth Football Fall League.

In the girls U14 division game at the San Antonio Elementary School, pacesetter Matansa Football Club blanked MP United last Saturday, 1-0, to nail its seventh

win in as many games in the four-team field. Matansa is way ahead in the group with its 21 points and 36 goals scored. In seven matches, Matansa has allowed only two goals.

MP United dropped to a 2-2-3 win-draw-loss record and after failing to score in last weekend's game the team's total goal scored so far remained at six.



MP United and Paire players battle for the ball during their U18 game in the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Paire 5, Tan Holdings 0

In the other girls U14 match, Paire Football Club shut out Tan

Holdings FC, 5-0.

Jackie Saralu drilled two goals for Paire, which drew one

goal each from Joeny Villagomez, Tricia Ingram, and Mikaela Duenas.

With the victory, Paire improved to a 3-2-2 mark for second place in the team standings.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

It has posted 18 goals, gave up 13, and collected 11 points.

Tan Holdings is still winless in seven matches and has scored only one goal to remain at the bottom of the team standings.

BOYS U14

Tan Holdings 5, Shirley's 0

In the first game in the boys U14, Tan Holdings FC clobbered Shirley's, 5-0.

Woo Seok Choi had a hat-trick for Tan Holdings FC, while Kevin and Michael Park scored the two other goals of the team.

Tan Holdings now has a 3-1-1 slate, tying Paire Red for second place.

Shirley's absorbed its fifth loss in a row after winning its debut in the league.

Paire Black 5, Independents 2

In the second game, Paire Black topped Independents, 5-2.

Jeff Cheo led Paire Black's

See **DIVISION** on Page 27

Bowlers take NMASA monthly awards anew

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



For the second straight time, Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association handed out the NMASA Male and Female Athletes of the Month to members of the Saipan Bowling Association.

Keglers Rusty Musca and Gigi Zapanta were named NMASA Male and Female Athletes of the Month (for October) after reigning in the SBA-Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tournament last month.

Zapanta and Musca duplicated the feat of fellow bowlers Robert Talavera and Gina Sablan, who notched the September plum after prevailing in a similar tournament, two months ago.

Musca earned NMASA's nod after besting more than 10 male



Rusty Musca, left, and Gigi Zapanta, seen here with their SBA-Budweiser October roll-off winners certificates, were named NMASA Male and Female Athlete of the Month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

keglers for the King of the Lanes crown. It was Musca's first time to rule the monthly roll-off and he did it after collecting 998 pin-falls for a big 188-pinfall lead over runner-up Raymond Angeles (810). Musca was consistent in his first three games, posting 279, 246, and 278, before finishing with 195 pinfalls in Game 4 for an average of 249.50.

Zapanta joined Musca in the monthly awardees list after defeating 12 other female bowlers for the October title.

In the Queen of the Lanes event, Zapanta gained her second tiara of the year after besting 12 other female keggers.

Zapanta, who topped the April roll-offs, snapped her five-month losing skid after knocking down 724 pins in four games.

Zapanta started the monthly roll-off with 175 pinfalls in Game 1 and then played her

See **BOWLERS** on Page 27

Legislature asked to 'fix' NMASA bill

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association has sought a revision to the NMASA bill to clear the way for its takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex.

NMASA president Michael during the association's monthly meeting last Thursday night at the TSL Plaza announced that the NMASA Board has already asked the Legislature's assistance for the revamp NMASA statute.

"I drafted the suggested revision and submitted it to Rep. Ray Tebuteb last month," said White, adding that a copy of the draft will

not be available for media release, as NMASA wants lawmakers to look at it first.

However, White said during the NMASA monthly meeting that the revised bill will give the association more authority and flexibility in doing business, particularly the proposed takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex.

NMASA was created by virtue of PL No. 4-66 approved by then Gov. Pedro P. Teno-

rio during the 4th Legislature in 1984 and has powers and duties in regulating the use, operation, and maintenance of sports facilities of the CNMI government, under a memo-

See **LEGISLURE** on Page 27



White

Pacquiao: I'm still humble and I'm nice to people

By BARRY HORN
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS



ARLINGTON, Texas—In boxing, distractions typically come from government's judicial branch, not its legislative.

The likes of assault, breach of contract, possession, DUI and bankruptcy litter the sentences spoken and writ-

ten about the sport.

Now along comes Manny Pacquiao, whose training staff has bemoaned the time he's spent politicking along the post-election trail.

When Pacquiao last fought at Cowboys Stadium in March, he was merely a boxing phenom. When he enters the same ring Saturday night, announcer Michael Buffer is almost sure to introduce Pacquiao as

a "seven-time world champion and congressman representing the Philippine province of Sarangani."

Boxing has made Pacquiao an international star and a Philippine icon. Rich people's billions can be no match for a people's champion, provided he runs a serious, smart campaign that is well-funded and guided by political professionals.

When he enters the ring here

Saturday night, it will be around noon Sunday in the Philippines. Churches will cancel afternoon mass. A nation will be glued to its television sets, which will offer the live broadcast for free. A diminutive 5-5 1/2 and bulked up to all of 147 pounds, Pacquiao means as much to his country as the soccer team does to Brazilians, the hockey team does to Canadians and the Packers do to Green Bay.



Pacquiao

To listen to Pacquiao speak about his legislative agenda for his impoverished constituency would make even the most cynical observer dig deep for a few dollars for the cause.

Seated on a ring apron minutes after his only public workout Tuesday, Congressman Emmanuel Dapidran Pacquiao of the People's Champ Movement party spoke of rampant unemployment, education inequity, lack of health care and

See **PACQUIAO** on Page 27